PUTTING OUT THE WELCOME MATS, PG 18

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7th Heaven

Duffy the hot pick at Brit awards
pg 36

Obama's delicacy detour

BEAVERTAIL U.S. President Barack Obama apparently couldn't quell his curiosity — or his appetite.

At the end of a long day of meetings on his first foreign visit as president, Obama and his 50-car motorcade took an unscheduled detour into Ottawa's Byward Market in quest of that most Canadian of delicacies — a Beavertail.

The patty of whole-wheat dough is stretched into the shape of — you guessed it — a beaver tail. It's then float-cooked in canola oil.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHARLES DHARAPAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Barack Obama is saluted Thursday by Royal Canadian Mounted Police as he arrives in Ottawa. Obama spent approximately seven hours in Ottawa on his first trip to Canada as president. More coverage, page 8.

Whirlwind visit

Obama, Harper vow to fight recession, climate change

Barack Obama lapped up the love and gave some back during a whirlwind visit to the nation's capital that saw him promise closer collaboration on the troubled economy and the environment.

Thursday's seven-hour trip was supposed to be an all-work-and-no-play affair, but the U.S. president managed to sprinkle a bit of stardust along the way.

Obama and his 50-car motorcade took over downtown, dazzling swooning well-wishers and making a mess for commuters.

It was a celebrity sideshow to the main event — a meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper that yielded agreements to work together to rescue the economy and fight climate change.

Obama and Harper emerged from a series of meetings to announce a "clean-energy dialogue" aimed at reducing greenhouse gases and combatting climate change.

They also pledged to counter the global economic recession with "mutually beneficial stimulus measures" and by strengthening the international financial system.

And they said they would like to see stimulus money directed at the Canada-U.S. border to help speed up the flow of trade.

Obama made a point of taking a potentially awkward item off the table, saying he did not ask Harper to extend the Canadian mission to Afghanistan beyond the scheduled pullout date of 2011.

Obama heaped praise on America's northern neighbour.

"I love this country," he said. "I came to Canada on my first trip as president to underscore the closeness and the importance of the relationship between our two nations and to reaffirm the commitment of the United States to work with friends and partners to meet the common challenges of our time."

He also reiterated his intention to encourage bilateral trade rather than protectionism. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Greeting

- U.S. President Barack Obama touched down in Ottawa aboard Air Force One amid light snow, sparse crowds and heavy security. He strode down the gangway stairs and was greeted on the tarmac by a beaming Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, a series of dignitaries and a row of Mounties.

Obama's Visit

Academy Awards

- Movies

Metro's movie reviewers weigh in on who deserves an Oscar this year, pg 22

- Music

Alan Cross pits this year's best original song nominees against past winners, pg 31

- Television

Ben Mulroney reveals details of etalk's red carpet Oscar special, pg 32

- Monday

Be sure to read Monday's recap of who won, and read Enza Anderson's critique of red carpet fashions.

Riding the Recession

Looking for ways to save money and ride out the economic storm? For the next six weeks, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

- Canada

How independent businesses are trying to attract new customers, pg 12

- Next week

Comment – Anne Hines looks for humour in the economic downturn.
Food – How to grocery shop on a tighter budget.

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Toronto 1 Concorde Gate, Suite 703, Toronto, Ontario M3C 3N6. Publisher: Bill McDonald

Plans for power plant on Kipling Avenue scrapped

A proposal to build an 850-megawatt power plant on Kipling Avenue north of the Queensway has been dropped, according to the companies involved in the bid. The site, proposed by a partnership of Ontario Power Generation and TransCanada Corp., was one of four bidding to host the gas-fired generating plant. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Local

GM temporarily lays off 227

More than 200 workers at the General Motors plant in Oshawa have received temporary layoff notices. The notices affect 227 skilled tradespeople, like electricians and welders. Chris Buckley, president of Canadian Auto Workers Local 222, says global markets, not the wages and benefits of his members, are to blame. There was no immediate word on when the temporary layoffs take effect or how long they will last. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Monday's Metro

Comment

Anne Hines gives a helpful questionnaire to find out if you are ready to deal with the recession in her HineSight column.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Analysis What the president and the prime minister gained from yesterday's brief tour at **metronews.ca/canada**

Videos Enthusiastic crowds welcome Barack Obama to Ottawa at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 4 9 4; **Ontario Pick 4** : 2 8 4 2
Encore: 7251270; **Payday:** 1, 43, 52 & 71.
Daily Keno: 1, 2, 4, 8, 11, 17, 19, 22, 25, 26, 30, 32, 40, 45, 46, 47, 48, 52, 67, 69.
These results are not official.

Budget deficit might hit $10B

Duncan defends delaying budget to March

Ontario residents will learn the provincial government's plans to deal with the battered economy when Finance Minister Dwight Duncan delivers his budget March 26.

The budget is expected to include a deficit of as much as $10 billion, as well as investments in infrastructure and the auto sector.

"We will have new initiatives in this budget aimed at dealing with the changes, not only since the last budget, since the last fall statement," Duncan said Thursday, declining to provide further details.

He also defended the delayed release of the budget, which has angered the opposition parties, who were hoping for an early push on infrastructure and job stimulus to help struggling workers.

"There have been enormous changes since the fall statement," Duncan said. "There are still a number of the issues that we'll need to deal with in the coming budget that we're still getting some numbers on, so I think it's quite timely and quite appropriate."

Premier Dalton McGuinty was initially optimistic about how the province will fare in the current economic storm, with the government projecting a $500-million deficit in the budget.

However, McGuinty has since warned Ontario will be in the red for several years, starting with a "significant" deficit in the spring budget — expected to exceed $10 billion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opposition's worries about budget

- Opposition Leader Bob Runciman said the biggest concern if Dalton McGuinty tries to spend his way out of the recession is the possibility of falling into a structural deficit.
- "We're hearing rumours of $10 billion plus of deficit, which takes us back to the NDP era," he said.

Group wants $100 welfare boost

HEALTH A $100 monthly increase for Ontario welfare recipients would help put fresh, nutritious food on the tables of people who rely on social assistance, an advocacy group said Thursday as it further pressed the government to include a "healthy food supplement" in the upcoming budget.

"We don't want to live in a province where people don't have enough to eat," said Janet Gasparini, chairwoman of the Social Planning Network of Ontario.

"That's Third World poverty, and it's not what we should be accepting in Ontario."

The group brought the message to a food bank and soup kitchen. The Stop serves 16,000 people a year and the number is rising.

"With the economy bursting at the seams, we're running at about a 20 per cent increase," said executive director Nick Saul. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa **Canadians greet Obama**

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Merlin Cain, from Toronto, awaits the arrival of U.S. President Barack Obama Thursday on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Obama met with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and took a brief tour of the nation's capital in his first foreign trip as president.

Recession a boon for pawnshops

ECONOMY A twinge of regret crosses Melissa Moores' face as she hands over her laptop to the clerk at Cash Converters, an Oshawa buy-and-sell shop.

He hands her $75. Not much for a computer that costs nearly $1,000 new.

"I've got a mortgage to pay and every bit helps," says Moores, 23, who bought a home at about the same time the recession began. "With all this talk of an economic downturn, I started to think about getting rid of things I didn't really need."

Cash Converters president and CEO Danny Nigris says he's seen a lot of people like Moores lately. In fact, he says the company's two Durham Region locations, which offer cheque cashing services in addition to buying and selling second-hand goods, have seen a 40 per cent increase in the buy side of the business over the first six weeks of 2009 compared to the same period last year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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York prof earns prestigious fellowship

York University neuroscientist Denise Henriques is one of a handful of professors at Canadian universities to be awarded a prestigious 2009 Sloan Research Fellowship. The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation announced its selection of outstanding early career researchers recently. METRO NEWS SERVICES

ER wait times targeted

Health minister says there will be a cap of eight hours

Ontario is aiming to be the first province in Canada to cut down on the amount of time patients spend in the emergency room by setting targets for hospitals across the province.

Health Minister David Caplan Thursday unveiled the plan, which sets a cap of eight hours for patients with complex conditions and four hours for those with minor problems.

The clock starts when a patient registers or sees a triage nurse who gauges the urgency for treatment, and stops after they're discharged or admitted to a bed in another department.

Caplan

Nine out of 10 patients with serious conditions that require more time to diagnose and treat spend a maximum of 13.5 hours in Ontario emergency rooms, according to the latest provincial figures, which date back to October.

Most patients with minor problems spend about 4.6 hours in the ER, the statistics showed.

The province also unveiled a website that posts wait times in ERs across the province, figures that will "open a lot of eyes," Caplan said.

All Toronto hospitals that reported their wait times exceeded the provincial target, with one branch of the Humber River Regional Hospital clocking in at 22.8 hours for serious cases.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Minister of International Trade and Investment Sandra Pupatello is being accused by the opposition of excessive spending on travel and hotel expenses.

Miller wants to cut merit pay

COUNCIL Merit pay for senior staff at Toronto city hall will get the axe if Mayor David Miller has his way.

The generosity of the city's merit pay for non-unionized staff came up when politicians led by Coun. Peter Milczyn urged the budget committee to cut the $8.5 million set aside this year for that purpose. City officials say about 90 per cent of employees get the maximum merit pay permitted.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Minimum wage hike going ahead

INCREASE A scheduled 75-cent hourly increase in Ontario's minimum wage will go ahead as planned next month.

That won't please the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, which called Thursday on the government to scrap the plan to boost the minimum wage to $9.50 an hour on March 31.

The small-business lobby cited the faltering economy, and says the last thing its members need is another increase in the cost of doing business.

"It will help those vulnerable workers in Ontario make a little bit more money."
Peter Fonseca

Labour Minister Peter Fonseca says the government consulted businesses before implementing a schedule to increase the minimum wage each year.

Fonseca says the Liberal government felt that was the fair way to proceed after the Conservatives froze the minimum wage for nine years.

He calls the scheduled increases "one of the cornerstones" of the government's poverty reduction strategy.

"It will help those vulnerable workers in Ontario make a little bit more money and help them out with their quality of life," Fonseca said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories accuse Pupatello of running up $128K travel bill

BUSINESS Opposition politicians accused International Trade Minister Sandra Pupatello yesterday of living the high life on taxpayers' money, a practice they said she condemned before the Liberals came into power.

The Progressive Conservatives said Pupatello ran up a $128,000 travel bill in just one year, and complained that in the past she verbally attacked Tory cabinet minister Cam Jackson for his expenses.

"What goes around comes around," said Opposition Leader Bob Runciman.

Pupatello's office said the minister spent only $52,000 on travel in the past year and the rest was spent by her parliamentary assistant on other trips or a staff member who travels with the minister or assistant.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mary-Cone Barrie loses battle with cancer

Mary Cone Barrie, the wife of CBC radio show host Andy Barrie, has died following a battle with cancer. She was 63. Barrie, who had a doctorate in educational theory and adult education, was the director of University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Infection risks at long-term care: Study

FACILITY Long-term care facilities aren't doing enough to protect residents from infectious diseases, suggest the findings of the first attempt in 20 years to assess infection control efforts in nursing homes across Canada.

The study, based on a lengthy survey completed by staff of the facilities, found most don't have the recommended complement of infection control practitioners and don't undertake all the recommended activities to look for and prevent infections. The lead author of the study, Dr. Dick Zoutman of Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., said more should be done to protect seniors, who are highly vulnerable to infections because of their waning immune systems.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Survey

- Only 500 of the 1,458 nursing homes approached answered the survey.

TTC fare hike looming?

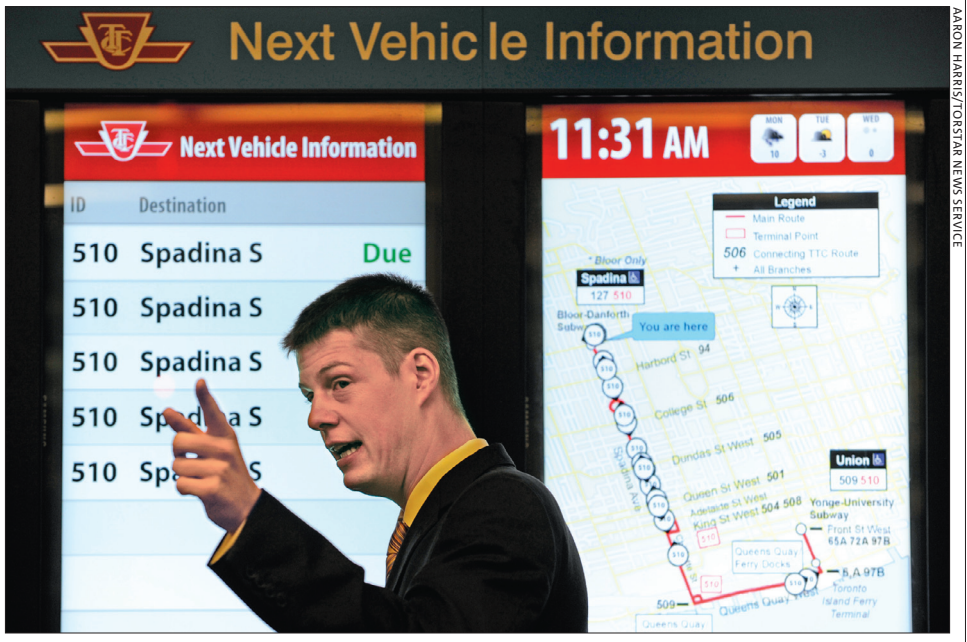
TTC riders relieved at this year's fare freeze would be advised to savour that break while they can, with the transit system's budget challenges expected to grow incrementally in the coming five years.

The extra $91 million the city is poised to approve on the TTC's $1.3 billion operating budget this year could grow to more like $400 million extra by 2014.

This year's increase will come out of a $238 million provincial subsidy that isn't likely to be forthcoming next year, even though the TTC will need a similar increase in 2010 to maintain last year's service boosts and improve bus frequency to a minimum of 20 minutes.

There are also incremental increases on the books for hiring more staff, such as route supervisors and cleaners, and ongoing salary commitments to unionized workers.

All that makes fare increases inevitable, according to some city councillors



AARON HARRIS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Toronto Transit Commission launched it's next vehicle arrival notification system Thursday. Next bus or streetcar information will be displayed on screens in stations and select TTC stops.

But "timing is important," says TTC chair Adam Giambrone. "Right now, during difficult times for everyone, the city has recognized that freezing fares temporarily is a way of helping stabilize things and literally keeping people and the economy moving."

The last fare increase, in November 2007, raised the price of tickets and tokens by 15 cents and hiked Metropass costs to $109 from $99.75. It added $35 million to the TTC's revenues. But there was no increase in the $2.75 cash fare.

An across-the-board increase of 25 cents on the cash fare, which would take it to $3 — the same as on Mississauga Transit — would translate to a monthly Metropass cost of $121 and raise about $47 million. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Reading pays off for Torontonians

PROGRAM A pilot project in which 32 Toronto libraries lend families free passes to cultural institutions like the Art Gallery of Ontario is being expanded to all 99 branches.

As of March 7, a limited number of Sun Life Financial museum and arts passes will be available to anyone with a Toronto library card. The pass provides full admission to a family of up to two adults and five children to institutions such as the AGO, Bata Shoe Museum, Black Creek Pioneer Village, Casa Loma and the Museum of Inuit Art.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SKI A 13-year-old Korean boy who was in Canada on a study visa died on a school trip Thursday after a skiing accident at a resort north of Barrie. OPP officers and emergency crews were called to Snow Valley Ski Resort in Springwater Township, between Barrie and Wasaga Beach, around 1:15 p.m. yesterday to assist the student, who sustained serious injuries on the slope.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tax cuts. Reach out and claim them.

The Government of Canada has introduced a wide range of tax cuts to help Canadians save on their taxes. Lower taxes are part of *Canada's Economic Action Plan*.

There are measures like the Children's Fitness Tax Credit, which allows parents to claim up to $500 in eligible fitness expenses paid for each qualifying child.

There are also the Public Transit Tax Credit and other tax savings designed to benefit people and families from all walks of life.

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Have-province celebrations scaled back in N.L.
Premier Danny Williams says plans to celebrate Newfoundland and Labrador's newfound status as a so-called have province are being scaled back because of the economic downturn. Williams says a holiday featuring events across the province was considered for next month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Afghan mission open for debate?

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff seems to be opening the door a crack to extending Canada's military mission in Afghanistan. After meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama, Ignatieff said his party's position "currently" is that the combat mission must end in two years. But should Obama persuade Prime Minister Stephen Harper to extend Canada's Afghan mission, Ignatieff says he'll cross that bridge when he gets to it. THE CANADIAN PRESS

'An easy guy to like'

Obama earns rave reviews from Canadian leaders

Obama's**Visit**

He told Michael Ignatieff he'd read his books. He discussed parenthood with Stephen Harper. And he chatted about Haiti with Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean.

All three Canadians declared they established an immediate rapport with Barack Obama during the U.S. president's first foreign visit.

And Canada's prime minister, opposition leader, and Governor General emerged with rave reviews after meeting the rookie president.

Each one of those encounters lasted far longer than scheduled and the Canadian participants came away applauding Obama's policy grasp and people skills.

Harper and Obama shooed away aides twice when they opened the door to the Prime Minister's Office and attempted to cut short a private one-on-one meeting.

Canadian and U.S. aides walked in after 20 minutes, then again after 25, but were told to leave the room as a scheduled 10-minute meeting dragged on more than three times that length.

"It was a great conversation," Harper told the CBC.

"He's an easy guy to like and an easy guy to get to know."

The opposition leader's meeting with Obama also lasted double the allotted time, with Ignatieff and the president sitting together for a half-hour in an airport lounge instead of the scheduled 15 minutes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More than just policy...

• Private chats between leaders are loathed by government officials, who fear that with no note-takers or advisers present a pair of over-exuberant bosses might wind up making dumb decisions. But Prime Minister Harper said one-on-one time allows leaders to discuss more than just government policy. He said that before the advisers and government note-takers joined them Thursday, he and U.S. President Obama waded into subjects like long-term dreams for their families and countries.

U.S. media struggles through coverage of Obama's Canada visit

CULTURE One CNN anchor had apparently never seen the Mounties before, and those who recognized one of Canada's most iconic national symbols noted the absence of their horses.

Others seemed enthralled by how wintry Ottawa was, while some on-air personalities struggled mightily to pronounce "Michaëlle Jean" and "charge d'affaires."

American news channels, bloggers and others who watched live on Thursday as President Barack Obama visited Ottawa were largely complimentary and admiring of Canada, even if they were somewhat unfamiliar with what they seemed to consider their quaint neighbour to the north.

"We love those Canadians; they're good people," CNN anchor Kyra Phillips said at one point during the cable news network's coverage of Obama's first foreign trip as president.

Later, however, Phillips said: "All eyes are on Ottawa right now — you don't hear that every day."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

REACTION A flash of smile and a wave through a window were enough to electrify Barack Obama fans as they lined slush-covered streets to watch the U.S. president's motorcade speed by. That fleeting brush with high-voltage charisma Thursday left schoolgirls screaming and moved strangers to hug each other. Even game-faced police officers got caught up in the rare moment, including one who posed for a snapshot after the line of bullet-proof black vehicles had passed. "My son will like a photo," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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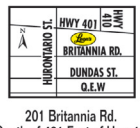

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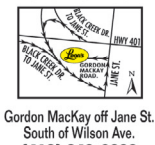

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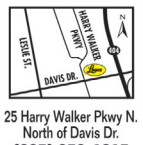

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Taking the fight to gangs
The head of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police called for a united front yesterday to fight B.C. gang crime. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta bracing for recession's impact

Alberta's energy-rich economy is tumbling into a recession after leading the country for years and the province is now projecting 15,000 lost jobs this year.

"Many Albertans will have a tough year ahead," Finance Minister Iris Evans predicted Thursday. "We've always said that we were not immune to the global recession. But we are better positioned than almost anybody else on the planet."

Plunging oil prices have taken a huge bite out of revenues and Alberta is now expecting spending to outpace revenues by more than $1 billion this year — the first sign of red ink in 15 years.

"The deficit is absolutely there. I think it's pretty obvious," said Evans.

Years of economic growth have also come to a crashing halt and the province's gross domestic product is expected to shrink by two per cent.

Market meltdowns have also reduced Alberta's rainy-day Heritage Savings Trust Fund by nearly $3 billion to roughly $14 billion.

Alberta led the nation in job growth for several years, but is now expecting unemployment to jump from last year's average of 3.6 per cent to 5.8 per cent in 2009.

Evans conceded that her news is a huge turnaround for a province that just last summer was projecting a near-record budget surplus of $8.5 billion and was anticipating $2 billion extra as recently as November.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver kidnap victim rescued

CRIME An 18-year-old student from China who was kidnapped four days ago has been rescued and five people have been arrested by Vancouver police.

The arrests came early Wednesday during dramatic police take-downs in several locations where police used stun grenades to produce loud noises to confuse the suspects — noises that some people mistook for shots. Police have not released the name of the victim. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

FIGHT The Innu Nation is requesting the Defence Department amend its plans to conduct test flights between 5,000 and 28,000 feet above the Seal Lake area. In the 1980s and 1990s, Innu focused worldwide attention on the issue by blockading runways at Canadian Forces Base Goose Bay in central Labrador.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Judge tops up $1M divorce settlement

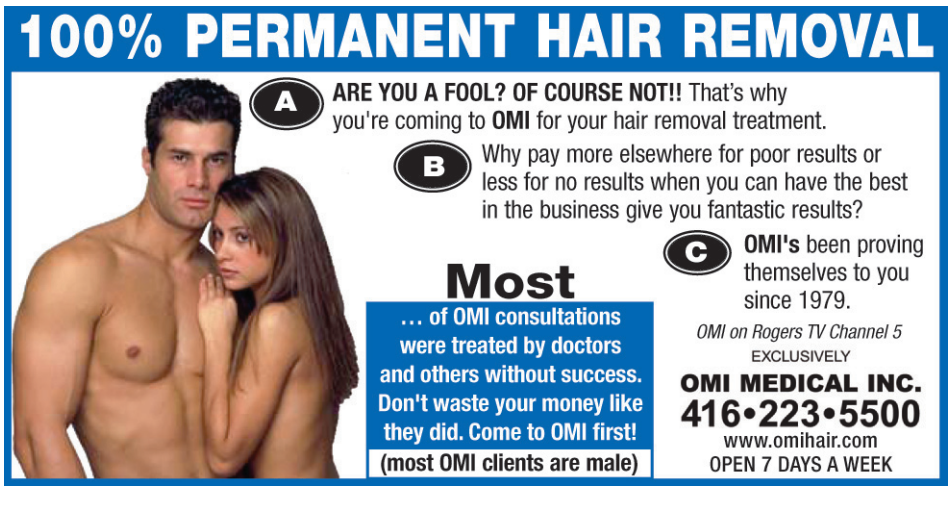
RULING The country's highest court has topped up a $1-million divorce settlement with an extra $649,000 for a British Columbia woman who complained her former husband hid assets and took advantage of her fragile mental health in negotiating a settlement.

In a 7-0 judgment Thursday, the Supreme Court of Canada effectively rewrote the original deal signed by Nancy Rick when her 28-year marriage to Ben Brandsema foundered in 2001. Justice Rosalie Abella, writing for her unanimous colleagues, noted the court has ruled in the past that judges shouldn't lightly interfere in settlements worked out between divorcing spouses.

> **1** The couple reached a deal when they split up that gave the wife a house and cash payments worth just over $1 million, while the husband kept control of the family dairy farm and other lucrative property.

"Parties should be free to decide for themselves what bargains they are prepared to make," said Abella. But she went on to add that "this contractual autonomy depends on the integrity of the bargaining process."

In this case, Abella concluded, there was ample evidence the two sides weren't playing on a level field and that her husband misled her on the actual value of the properties when she was in a vulnerable state. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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11	QUICK PICK				
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Tory now has six opponents for March 5 byelection

Family Coalition Party member Jake Pothaar has added his name to the ballot for the March 5 byelection in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, which is being sought by Progressive Conservative Leader John Tory. Seven candidates are now in the running for the seat. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Unique plan to snap out of slump

Vancouver wedding photographer teams with others to give away services

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
Metro Canada

An independent Vancouver businesswoman has put in motion a unique plan to snap out of the global economic slump.

Daniela Ciuffa, a wedding photographer, is giving away about $30,000 worth of services after teaming up with a wedding planner and several vendors.

"Compared to the same time last year, business is down about 20 to 30 per cent," Ciuffa said. "People are putting (their weddings) off for another year so they have longer to save."

Dan Kelly, the Calgary-based senior vice-president of legislative affairs with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, said there has been a significant erosion in small business confidence.

Riding the Recession

"Forty-six per cent of our members are predicting a weaker performance in the 12 months ahead," he said.

Ciuffa said she initially thought of the promotion as a way to give back to the community. When clients began to delay their weddings, it became a necessity.

Kelly said discounting and giveaways are effective in attracting clients, and cutting the marketing budget to save money is not a good idea.

"That can often be a terrible thing to do," he said. "We advise our members to look for low-cost marketing alternatives like Facebook."

ADVERTISING FEATURE

How Canadians can turn a turbulent stock market into massive profits

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George Fontanills, founder of Optionetics, is a Harvard-educated, internationally renowned best-selling author, money manager, and options trading expert.

Canadian jobs are up by record numbers one month and down by record numbers the next. Home sales fall, but homes prices rise over last year. Battles rage in Parliament. Recession hits some industries hard, while others escape. From Vancouver to Toronto to Wall Street, little wonder the markets are volatile… up 100 to 200 points one day, and down 100 to 200 points the next. Most investors think you can't make money in markets like this. But I do it every day, and I can show you how.

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- Investors looking to minimize risk and protect profits
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Think-tank survey shows pay increases will slow in 2009

ECONOMY Canadian workers can expect to see far more modest pay increases this year as businesses cut back in response to the deepening economic crisis, a new survey shows.

Jobless

- In the last three months, Canada has seen more than 210,000 net jobs disappear and the jobless rate has risen by more than a full percentage point to 7.2 per cent.

The Conference Board of Canada, an Ottawa-based think-tank, says employers have shaved their projected salary increases to 2.9 per cent for non-unionized workers from 3.9 per cent a few months ago.

Projections for wage increases by unionized workers fell to a 2.7 per cent gain from 3.2 per cent in earlier forecasts.

Both are still better than the 0.7 per cent average inflation rate expected in 2009. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Family hopeful for teen's return

MISSING A Quebec family is holding out hope for the imminent return of their teenage son who has been missing for 10 days after he was badly bullied at school. David Fortin, 14, has not been heard from since Feb. 10, when he failed to make it to school.

Police said Thursday that investigators believe Fortin is alive and he hitchhiked to central Quebec from his home in Alma, Que.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Woman rescued from frigid water

SUBMERGED Two police officers in southwestern Ontario's Essex County are being credited with saving a woman from a car that had flipped into frigid water. Essex police Sgt. Jerry Ribble was on patrol Wednesday when he found an overturned car submerged in about 1.5 metres of water.

The car's interior was about 90 per cent full of icy water.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CORRECTION NOTICE

In the Tuesday, Feb. 17th issue, metro Toronto mistakenly ran a Vancouver Flight Centre ad promoting an expired rate to Las Vegas. We acknowledge the error as ours and apologize to valued Flight Centre customers and metro readers for the mistake and inconvenience.

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Pennsylvania rejects film production company name for being offensive
The American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania has sued on behalf of a man whose film company name, "I Choose Hell Productions," was rejected by the state. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

BERNAT ARMANGUE / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel's Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu, in this Feb. 11 file photo, addresses supporters at the Likud election headquarters at the convention centre in Tel Aviv.

Netanyahu all but in

Benjamin Netanyahu won the endorsement Thursday of an anti-Arab politician who emerged from Israel's election as a kingmaker, virtually ensuring that the U.S.-educated politician will once again become prime minister.

The big question is whether Netanyahu will be able to build the broad coalition he will likely need to stay in power and avoid clashing with much of the world.

With his top rival, centrist Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, signalling that she would enter the opposition, Netanyahu's coalition prospects do not look good. He will likely have little choice but to join with nationalist and religious parties opposed to peacemaking with the Palestinians and Israel's other Arab neighbours.

One major Orthodox Jewish party, Shas, also threw its support to Netanyahu.

"Today the foundations were laid for an extremist right-wing government under the leadership of Netanyahu," Livni said in a message to party members. "That is not our way and there is nothing for us in such a government ... We must be an alternative of hope and go into opposition."

If Livni stays out of government, it would surely hurt Netanyahu's credibility with the United States and Europe. His hold on power would be more tenuous in a narrow coalition of rightists, with hardline allies threatening to bring down his government in the face of any concession for peace. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three men acquitted in Russian reporter's death

SHOOTING A jury in Moscow voted unanimously Thursday to acquit three men in the killing of journalist Anna Politkovskaya, dimming hopes anyone will ever be held accountable for a slaying that provoked international outrage.

Critics say the 2006 slaying of the investigative reporter sent a grim signal that even the most prominent Kremlin critics can be murdered with impunity. It provoked international outrage, raising suspicion that her death was ordered by prominent officials.

A jury acquitted two Chechen brothers and an ex-policeman following a trial that defence lawyers and supporters said was marred by prosecution errors and oversights.

Politkovskaya was shot in the elevator of her central Moscow apartment building on Oct. 7, 2006, after a trip to the supermarket. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2008 shark attacks hit five-year low

MARINE LIFE Shark attacks dipped last year to their lowest in five years, a researcher said Thursday.

Last year saw 59 shark attacks around the world, compared with 71 in 2007.

George Burgess, an ichthyologist and director of the International Shark Attack File, which is housed at the University of Florida, said there were four fatalities in 2008, which is average. Only one death was noted in 2007, a two-decade low.

Burgess believes the recession may be a factor in the decline in attacks. "I can't help but think that contributing to the reduction may have been the reticence of some people to take holidays and go to the beach for economic reasons," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

BANGLADESH Officials said they were calling off the search for those still missing after a small ferry carrying about 60 people capsized on a river in Bangladesh early Thursday, killing at least 17 people. The ferry, which was rammed by a trawler, was towed to shore and searched. Between 15 and 50 people are still missing. THE ASSOCIATED

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Candy wrappers lead to burglary suspects

Police say a trail of Reese's Peanut Butter Cup wrappers helped them find five teens suspected of breaking into a nearby home after officers responded to a burglary report Tuesday in Palm Bay on Florida's central Atlantic coast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reach out to Afghan villages: Commander

Canadian soldiers and thousands of U.S. reinforcements will need to reach out to residents in the smallest villages in Kandahar if the war in Afghanistan is to be turned around, a senior Canadian commander said Thursday.

Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance, who officially took charge of the 2,850 soldiers, aircrew and support staff in Kandahar, acknowledged that a change in strategy is underway — one designed to reverse the plunging confidence among a war-weary population.

"The Canadian approach will be to directly touch the people in those towns; mom, dad and kids in the towns at the municipal and community level," Vance said following a ceremony where he took over from Brig.-Gen. Denis Thompson Thursday.

"The Canadian approach will be to directly touch ... mom, dad and kids in the towns."
Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance

For much of the last three years, the avenue Canadian commanders have taken has been to secure Kandahar, the country's second largest city, as well as a handful of other smaller towns, such as Arghandab and the border community of Spin Boldak.

Rural areas like the restive districts of Zhari and Panjwaii, however — which have borne witness to some of the bloodiest, most storied battles fought by Canadian troops — have been harder to tame and, in some cases, left to their own devices.

Vance said he believes that could change, thanks to a fresh infusion of some 17,000 more U.S. troops that "will have an immediate and dramatic effect" on the ground and allow NATO to have more direct contact with ordinary Afghans. THE CANADIAN PRESS

England **Airport protest**

MATT DUNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People dressed up as polar bears hold up placards during a protest Thursday opposite the entrance to Downing Street in London, opposing the proposed third runway at Heathrow Airport.

Iraqi shoe thrower defiant during trial

COURT The Iraqi journalist who threw his shoes at former U.S president George W. Bush did not apologize as his trial began Thursday, and instead struck a defiant tone — telling the judges he wanted to hit back at the humiliation Iraq had suffered at American hands.

It was Muntadhar al-Zeidi's first public appearance since he was arrested in mid-December for hurling shoes at Bush during a joint news conference with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. The act turned the 30-year-old reporter into a cult hero throughout much of the Middle East.

"What made me do it was the humiliation Iraq has been subjected to due to the U.S. occupation and the murder of innocent people," al-Zeidi told the court. "I wanted to restore the pride of the Iraqis in any way possible, apart from using weapons."

"What made me do it was the humiliation Iraq has been subjected to due to the U.S. occupation and the murder of innocent people."
Muntadhar al-Zeidi

He also said he had been tortured with beatings and electric shocks during his interrogation — allegations the Iraqi government has denied.

The trial was later adjourned until March 12. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mom, 3 children die in fire

FATALITIES An early-morning fire in Long Island engulfed two apartments Thursday, killing a woman and three of her children, police said. Eight people jumped out of second-floor windows and survived.

The cause of the fire in the village of Lawrence was not known, but authorities were checking for signs of arson.

Authorities said the blaze may have started in the stairway to the second floor of the building.

The victims were a 46-year-old woman, her 19-year-old son, and daughters ages nine and 10, Nassau County police spokesman Lt. Kevin Smith said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

PIRACY A NATO spokesman says the alliance is planning a new naval operation to combat piracy off the coast of Somalia next spring. NATO in December ended Operation Allied Provider, during which its warships successfully escorted cargo vessels. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Embattled ex-mayor in hospital for kidney transplant
Ex-Washington, D.C., mayor Marion Barry, facing jail for failing to file tax returns, has been admitted to hospital for a kidney transplant. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Czech chief scorns EU

Calls bloc elitist, reminiscent of Soviet times

The president of the Czech Republic has launched a scathing attack on the European Union, saying the bloc his country currently heads is undemocratic, elitist and reminiscent of Soviet-era dictatorships.

Vaclav Klaus, who holds the rotating EU presidency, provoked jeers from many legislators in Brussels, Belgium, some of whom walked out, but applause from nationalists and other anti-EU legislators.

He said current EU practices smacked of communist times when the Soviet Union controlled much of eastern Europe, including the Czech Republic, and when dissent or even discussions were not tolerated.

Klaus said that questioning deeper integration has become an "uncriticizable assumption that there is only one possible and correct future of the European integration."

Observers had been expecting Klaus to deliver a critical speech during his first and only visit to the EU chamber.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Klaus

- Vaclav Klaus is known for deep skepticism of the EU and has refused to fly the EU flag over his official seat in Prague during the Czech presidency, saying the country is not an EU province.

Not guilty plea in scaring death case

ROBBERY A man accused by authorities of scaring a North Carolina woman to death after breaking into her home last year after an attempted bank robbery has pleaded not guilty to federal charges that include causing a death as a result of a bank robbery.

An autopsy found 79-year-old Mary Parnell died of a heart attack brought on by the shock of the home invasion.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scores evacuated as Chile's Chaiten volcano erupts

THREAT Scores of people who returned to a Chilean town destroyed by a volcanic eruption last year are again being evacuated as the volcano roars back to life.

The presidential delegate for the region said a new explosion has rocked the dome of the Chaiten volcano.

Paula Narvaez added the eruption also sent volcanic material down the mountain's slope, threatening to block a river and cause flooding.

Narvaez said as many as 150 people will be removed from the town at the foot of the 960-metre-high volcano.

Some residents of the town have resisted government efforts to move them to a new settlement following last year's devastating eruption.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Expensive premiums don't pay off

Marketplace

Blaring headlines make it hard to miss. Canadians are losing their jobs and credit is hard to come by. So don't be surprised if your bank or even your favourite retail chain starts pitching you about the need to protect yourself.

They're selling something called credit balance insurance. It's supposed to protect you in case of illness or death, or if you lose your job it promises to cover your credit card payments.

But after doing some math we started to wonder whose balance they're really trying to protect.

The cost of balance insurance can really add up. The average price is about one dollar for every $100 you spend a month. So when you've got $2,000 on your plastic, you're forking over $20 a month for insurance alone.

Insurance expert Jim Bullock says these expensive premiums don't pay off in the end, because if you lose your job, the insurance only covers your minimum monthly payment, which is usually less than three per cent of your balance.

What's worse is how many people claim this insurance is added to their accounts without their knowledge.

Jodie Lightfoot, 27, has been unknowingly paying for this insurance on her RBC Visa for years, to the tune of $1,839.

She claims her bank didn't ask her if she wanted this insurance. When she disputed the charges, they gave her a full refund.

We commissioned an EKOS poll and found that a quarter of the respondents either didn't know they had it or didn't know it was optional, and fully half didn't understand how it worked.

In the United Kingdom there were so many complaints about this insurance the government investigated and fined lenders millions of pounds for inappropriate sales techniques. There's even a new ban in the U.K. against selling this insurance with credit card applications.

While Canadian banks do have their own rules about selling insurance and fully disclosing credit card charges, statistics from the government's consumer watchdog show the rules aren't always being followed.

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) has heard from almost 260 Canadians complaining about this insurance. The most common complaint is that it is added to people's cards without their consent. But so far there has been no crackdown on the banks or retail chains.

After we showed FCAC how some people feel they've been misled about this insurance, they promised to look into it.

Wendy Mesley is a co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show, and a regular back-up host with CBC News: The National.
CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. (9 p.m. NT) on CBC Television.

Views

It's time to take care of ourselves

UrbanCompass

The release of the 2009 Toronto budget points out once again the precarious state of the city's finances. This budget is balanced only by dipping into reserve funds and borrowing almost $300 million from the provincial government. Even with a four per cent increase in property taxes the city seems to be in financial trouble.

And although total expenditure comes to $8.7 billion for the year, it is not as though the city is meeting the needs of the people who live here. It includes no funds for new transit lines and none for affordable family housing. There was a hope the federal stimulus package would put money into these needs, but those hopes were once again dashed.

We need a new budget strategy, one that relies on our own strengths rather than hoping another government will solve our problems.

If Toronto could levy its own Goods and Services Tax — tacked on to the federal GST and provincial sales tax — the city could raise the revenue it needs itself, and pretty painlessly. An extra one per cent on GST in Toronto, raising it to six per cent, would provide the city an extra $600 million a year and I'll bet few of us would notice the loss of small change.

It is not as though the city is meeting the needs of the people who live here.

That kind of extra money would permit the city to fund its own affordable housing program, improve recreation programs for youth, and offer better transit service.

Local politicians are reluctant to ask for the power to levy a citywide GST because they would then be on the hook for raising taxes. They feel better asking other politicians to raise those taxes and then whine when they don't.

We need to grow up and take responsibility. City council should request the legislative power to levy its own GST in Toronto and achieve the financial muscle and independence to make a good city.

John Sewell is a former mayor of Toronto

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TD Bank CEO takes 41 per cent pay cut
Toronto-Dominion Bank chief executive Ed Clark is taking a 41 per cent cut in his pay for 2008 to $8 million, after declining to accept $3 million and turning this amount over to charity. Clark was awarded $11 million, down 19 per cent from 2007. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Avon unveils restructuring strategy

RETAIL New York-based Avon Products said Thursday it will expand its restructuring program, freeze salaries and hiring, and boost recruitment of sales representatives as a stronger U.S. dollar makes the beauty supplier's products more expensive to overseas customers.

The world's largest direct seller of cosmetics made 77 per cent of its sales overseas in 2008.

Over the next four years, Avon's new strategy will affect 2,500 to 3,000 positions worldwide. Avon has already raised prices, cut jobs, closed some operations and moved work to countries where labour is cheaper. CEO Andrea Jung said Avon will offer free shipping to woo buyers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Housing crumbles

Building starts 50% below last spring's peak

Home construction is forecast to tumble 24 per cent this year.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp.'s startling outlook for housing starts projects 160,250 starts for 2009, down from 211,056 units in 2008, which was itself 7.6 per cent lower than 2007.

CMHC also predicts sales of existing homes will fall 14.6 per cent this year.

"The economic downturn will result in a decrease in demand for home ownership."
Bob Dugan, CMHC chief economist

"The economic downturn will result in a decrease in demand for home ownership," said Bob Dugan, the federal housing agency's chief economist.

Housing starts — a key economic measure, as new homes define demand for everything from cinder blocks to chandeliers — are almost 50 per cent below last spring's peak, with Western Canada showing the sharpest pullback.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leon's posts profit as industry faces downturn

FURNITURE Leon's Furniture shrugged off both a downturn in the housing market and reluctant shoppers to post a growth of 7.4 per cent in fourth-quarter profits and higher overall sales.

The company said Thursday that it turned out earnings of $23.2 million during the last three months of 2008, an increase from $21.6 million in the same period last year.

Revenues were also higher, up to $269.9 million from $185.9 million, partly on the acquisition of Appliance Canada in January 2008, which primarily sells appliances to apartments and offices.

Sales at Leon's corporate stores open at least a year fell 1.7 per cent due to a weaker economy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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More Americans out of work than ever before

EMPLOYMENT The number of laid-off workers receiving unemployment benefits in the United States has jumped to an all-time high near five million, while new jobless claims remain above 600,000.

Jobs
- The claims figure was significantly above the year-ago level of 2.77 million and underscored the difficulty people are having finding a job once laid off.

Both figures were worse than expected and new projections from the U.S. Federal Reserve show unemployment rising for the rest of this year.

The U.S. Labour Department reported Thursday that the number of people receiving regular unemployment benefits rose 170,000 to 4.99 million for the week ending Feb. 7, marking the fourth week those receiving benefits have been at a record level on data going back to 1967.

An additional 1.5 million people are receiving benefits under an extended unemployment compensation program approved by Congress last year, bringing the total number of people receiving unemployment benefits to 6.54 million for the week ending Feb. 7.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Report: Rams franchise Canadian Atogwe

According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the St. Louis Rams have placed the franchise tag on defensive back O.J. Atogwe, left. The Windsor, Ont., native was tabbed a "non-exclusive" franchise player and Atogwe has the ability to negotiate with other teams. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Francis likely out for season

Canadian left-hander Jeff Francis, left, will have exploratory surgery on his pitching shoulder next week and the Colorado Rockies pitcher expects to miss the entire 2009 season. The North Delta, B.C., native expects rehabilitation to take six month to a year. Francis was 4-10 with a 5.01 ERA last season before being shut down with the shoulder trouble.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Return of the Mats

"Once the puck drops, it'll be a game like any other game."

Surely Mats Sundin doesn't completely believe it himself, even as the words leave his lips.

Not when the game has long been the most anticipated on the Maple Leafs' calendar, circled back in December when Sundin signed with the Canucks.

Not when Saturday marks the return of the former captain to his adopted city, the place where Sundin grew up as a hockey player, arriving in a deal for Wendel Clark; staying until he was the franchise's all-time leader in goals, points.

Not when even his fellow NHLers are abuzz with curiosity about how Toronto will welcome him. Will he be feted by the fans as one of the greatest to ever pull on a Leafs jersey?

Or will the ACC jury jeer him for refusing to waive a no-trade clause that would have accelerated the team's rebuilding; saying he wouldn't become a rental player, then essentially becoming one anyway?

Sundin professes not to fret about how he is judged, though he concedes while his hockey focus is now with the Canucks, he hasn't transplanted all his affections out of Hogtown.

"I feel really good about going back. Toronto feels like home for me. I spent 13 years in the city. They were great years and it's always going to be part of my heart."

In Ottawa, where the Canucks played Thursday night, Sens forward Jason Spezza was asked which was the bigger story — the arrival of Sundin in Eastern Canada or the whirlwind visit of U.S. President Barack Obama.

"I think Obama," said Spezza.

"He might be a little bit of a bigger deal. Maybe not in Toronto, but here."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Leafs **Blue Jackets come to town**

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justin Pogge makes a save against the Blue Jackets Jakub Voracek Thursday night. For a report, visit metronews.ca/sports.

Saturday

VS

7 p.m.
CBC/AM640

Raps get bigger at deadline

The Raptors made a move at the NBA trade deadline Thursday, easing a glut at one position and satisfying a need at another.

As part of a late-breaking three-way transaction, the Raptors acquired seven-foot centre Patrick O'Bryant from the Boston Celtics while sending point guard Will Solomon to the Sacramento Kings. The Kings will send a future second-round draft pick and cash to Boston to complete the transaction.

O'Bryant, the ninth pick in the 2006 draft, has been languishing on the Boston bench behind Kendrick Perkins and Glenn Davis and has played in just 26 games this season. But the 22-year-old comes to a team starved for size behind Chris Bosh and Andrea Bargnani, and with Kris Humphries still out, O'Bryant should challenge Jake Voskuhl for playing time.

Bosh is expected back in the Raptors lineup Friday night in New York as they start a home-and-home series with the Knicks.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Friday & Sunday

VS

Friday: 7:30 p.m.
TSN/FAN 590
Sunday: Noon
CBC/FAN 590

Deadline deals

- Oklahoma City acquired Thabo Sefolosha from the Chicago Bulls for a draft pick.
- The Houston Rockets acquired Kyle Lowry from the Memphis Grizzlies for a first-round pick.
- The Orlando Magic got Rafer Alston from the Rockets for Brian Cook and a pick.
- The Knicks acquired Larry Hughes from Chicago for Tim Thomas and Jerome James.
- The Bulls acquired Brad Miller and John Salmons late Wednesday from Sacramento for Andres Nocioni, Drew Gooden, Cedric Simmons and Michael Ruffin.
- The trade sending Tyson Chandler to the Thunder from New Orleans was rescinded after doctors expressed concern over a recurring toe injury.

Argos trade for Moreno
The Toronto Argonauts acquired linebacker Zeke Moreno and a draft pick from Winnipeg for defensive end Riall Johnson Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Into the fire

TheHockeyNews
Ryan Kennedy

thehockeynews.com

It's true, the current situation — which sees Justin Pogge jettisoned between the Buds and the Marlies — is unorthodox.

But with the Leafs out of contention, this is the time to fool around for the future. In Tuesday's loss to the Buffalo Sabres, Pogge was essentially beaten by NHL speed due to an AHL mindset. A quick turnover by John Mitchell in the defensive zone led to a speedy wrister by new Leaf-killer Drew Stafford. Maybe next year, Pogge makes the save.

Now the glass-half-full crowd will point out that Pogge settled down quite nicely after the first period, but that ignores the fact the score was already 3-0. With Ryan Miller playing excellent in net for Buffalo, there was no real need for the Sabres to keep pouring it on; they knew the Leafs would be hard-pressed to get one goal, let alone several.

The value in Pogge's call-up this time around is in repetitions. Pogge will now face NHL-calibre shots in practices, as well as games. He will watch the habits of established veterans Vesa Toskala and Curtis Joseph.

Ironically, the defence Pogge has played for with the Marlies is just as porous and giving as their NHL big brothers, so he can't expect things to get any easier now that he's in The Show.

It's not difficult to see the evolution of the Leafs' rebuilding process in terms of netminders. Pogge is essentially getting looks at the expense of Joseph, a fan favourite who is nonetheless playing his last season in Toronto, if not the NHL.

A tandem of Toskala and Pogge, with Toskala playing, say, 60 of 82 games, sets the table for a 2010-11 season where Pogge takes his shot at No. 1. Unless the Leafs plan on parachuting in a veteran in the future, this is Pogge's time to learn the ropes and begin his own legacy.

Tiger ready to make his return

GOLF Eight months after winning the U.S. Open on one good leg, a healthy Tiger Woods is returning to golf. Woods said on his website Thursday that he will defend his title next week in the Accenture Match Play Championship, believing his reconstructed left knee and his game is fit enough to play.

Woods

"I'm now ready to play again, Woods said. The Match Play Championship in Tucson, Ariz., begins Wednesday, where Woods will end his 254-day break from competition. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

BOXING Light heavyweight champion Chad Dawson's rematch with Antonio Tarver has been postponed after Dawson injured his hand during training this week. Dawson (27-0, 17 KOs) was scheduled to fight Tarver (27-5, 19 KOs) on March 14 at the Palms casino in Las Vegas. The fight was a contractually obligated rematch of their bout Oct. 11, which Dawson won in a unanimous decision. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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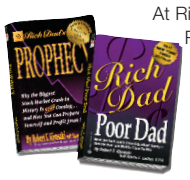

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Robert Kiyosaki will not attend this workshop.

Times and venue
The Canadian International Auto Show runs at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and Rogers Centre till Sunday, Feb. 22. Show hours are 10:30 a.m to 10 p.m. daily and 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Feb. 22. METRO NEWS SERVICES

2009 Auto Show

EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Customization key to Cube and Soul

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Toronto

MARK ATKINSON FOR METRO CANADA

Nissan and Kia both say the key to success for the Nissan Cube, left, and the Kia Soul, right, is customization tailored to each buyer.

Dell Computers believes that people are willing to pay more for something if it's personalized, or customized to their needs — and it's completely revamped the way it does business in North America.

While customization in electronics might be a new venture, vehicle personalization goes back to the automobile's very beginnings. In the 1950s and '60s, there used to be arm-long option lists and dozens of factory paint colour combinations to choose from.

That changed radically in the '80s and '90s, with automakers believing that having two or three groups of popular options was key to keeping costs down. That's why most new vehicles only offer a handful of colours and trim levels.

Sure, if you're buying a Porsche 911 and want leather-wrapped sun visors, the company would happily do that, but the costs involved are too high for the average consumer to bear.

Two new offerings at the Canadian International Auto Show are trying to bring personalization and that sense of ownership to a much more approachable price level. The Kia Soul and Nissan Cube are similar in concept, seeing as both are entry-level five-door squared-off hatchbacks. But it takes more than just funky designs to attract new buyers today.

While the Cube will be available with all of the usual comfort and safety features as standard, a full range of accessories will allow buyers to "expand their Cube world," as Nissan puts it, with items such as an illumination kit with 20 selectable colours, illuminated kick plates, rear cargo organizer, pet blankets, wheels and aero kits.

"We know that self-expression is important to many potential Cube buyers, so we've provided the room and accessories to help with personalization," said Ian Forsyth, director of product and corporate planning at Nissan Canada. "However, Cube is far from a blank or empty canvas that buyers must equip on their own. The Cube (has) an abundance of personality right off the assembly line."

The Soul offers a similar level of self expression, offering everything from houndstooth seat coverings to glow-in-the-dark logos. And customers are free to customize their new vehicle with everything from different wheels, graphics packages, running boards, and sound systems with LED lights that flash to the beat.

"The Soul is for those who love individuality but don't like to be categorized by finding the next best thing."
Kia's Michael Sprague

"The Soul is for those who love individuality but don't like to be categorized by finding the next best thing," said Michael Sprague, vice-president of marketing at Kia.

"Soul is an attractive and customizable vehicle for those looking for something with a little more personality than other vehicles on the market today."

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nissan car designer and B.C. native Randy Rodriguez poses next to a 370Z, which he designed the original concept for, at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto.

From childhood dreamer to car designer

PROFILE Randy Rodriguez was one of those boys who filled his school notebooks with drawings of dream cars: "Always, sketching on everything," the designer at Nissan Design America in San Diego, Calif. remembers.

But what was a time-waster in class turned into a future and led to a dream assignment for a kid from North Surrey Secondary in suburban Vancouver — redesign the car that was the love of his youth.

The 31-year-old's original design concept forms the basis for Nissan's new 370Z, the sixth generation of its iconic sports car.

Bruce Campbell, design vice-president at Nissan Design America, who hired Rodriguez in 2002, remembers he wasn't much of a talker at his job interview. Until he talked about restoring a 1977 Datsun 280Z with his brother.

"It opened the floodgates and he started talking about his love for the Z and Nissan," he said. "He did have the passion."

So it wasn't surprising Rodriguez would submit a sketch for Nissan's worldwide design competition to replace the 350Z.

Rodriguez's first sketches "were filled with emotion, rawness, exaggeration and freshness."

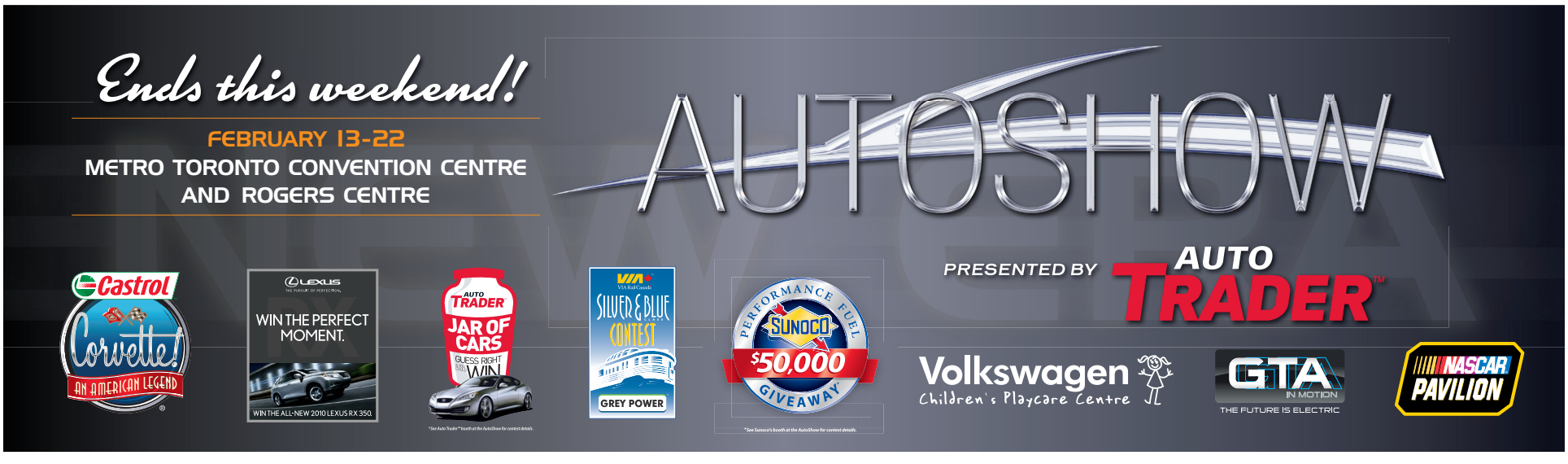
The challenge was to refine the concept, which Campbell describes as "a cartoon," into a viable production model without baking out that passion.

Rodriguez's concept was heavily influenced by his love of the first-generation, Italian-styled 240Z, with elements of Nissan's current GT-R supercar.

Nissan wanted some of that heritage but didn't want to completely abandon the 350Z's modern muscularity.

The 240Z references in Rodriguez's drawings are clear: a sleek silhouette, a prominent front air intake that invokes the GT-R, a distinct character line along the car's belt line that simulates the original's longer hood.

"The car on the road now, they honoured the original theme so it's very close to what I did," he says. THE CANADIAN PRESS



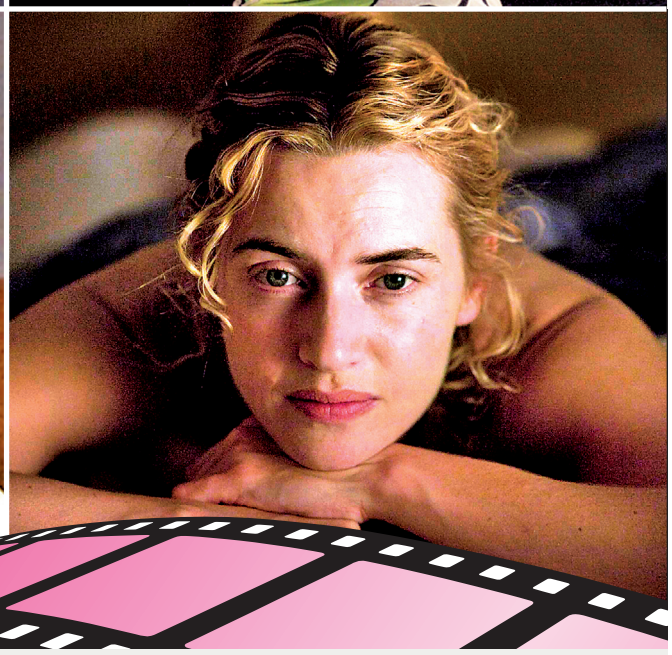
Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Oscar race Pg 22



Will Angelina Jolie or Kate Winslet win a golden statue for their roles in Changeling or The Reader respectively? And will the Hollywood comeback be completed by the previously maligned Mickey Rourke? Perhaps Frank Langella will surprise a few with an Oscar for his performance in Frost/Nixon? Be sure to check out our pre-Academy Awards coverage for Metro's picks.

Music Pg 31

Alan Cross dishes on the best and worst Oscar songs.

Television Pg 32

Read about some of Ben Mulroney's red carpet goofs.

7th Heaven Pg 36

Duffy tops the BRIT Awards, takes home three trophies.

TV times
The 81st Annual Academy Awards show airs live Sunday on CTV at 8:30 p.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

(Clockwise from top left) Danny Boyle, director of multiple-nominee Slumdog Millionaire, shares a moment with the film's stars; Brad Pitt has a best actor nomination for The Curious Case of Benjamin Button; Israel's unique take on war, Waltz with Bashir, is a front-runner in the foreign film race; Man on Wire will be the film to beat in the documentary feature category; and Meryl Streep earned her 15th Oscar nod for her portrayal of a hard-nosed nun in Doubt.

The Oscar goes to ...

Metro film critics make their picks for top categories

Will it be the year of the Slumdog or will Button sew it up when Hollywood rolls out the red carpet for its biggest night Sunday? Metro's movie experts — Richard Crouse, Steve Gow and Chris Alexander — choose their favourites for what appears to be a tight race for Oscar glory:

BEST PICTURE
Crouse: All signs seem to be pointing to Slumdog Millionaire taking home the award. It's the little movie that could; a film that almost went straight to DVD, that has gone on to prove the old Hollywood maxim that nobody can predict what is going to become a hit.
Gow: If Slumdog doesn't lose its momentum, it's a no-brainer to take top prize. However, you can't discount Benjamin Button — Hollywood loves Pitt, David Fincher and these kinds of heart-tugging epics.
Alexander: I think, outside of The Wrestler, my favorite film of the year, I have to say that I enjoyed Frost/Nixon the most. So if a movie is to measured by how much an individual is entertained by it, I say ... give it to Frost/Nixon.

BEST DIRECTOR
Crouse: I'd be surprised if Danny Boyle doesn't win. Most of the other directors are multiple nominees but this seems to be Slumdog's year.
Gow: It would be great to see Boyle take this. After all, not only did he make this gorgeous movie in the slums of India, but used an unknown cast as well.
Alexander: Go, David Fincher, go ... you've finally made a movie whose heart and soul matches your technical expertise. Keep it up.

BEST ACTOR
Crouse: Everybody loves a comeback, so Mickey Rourke's raw performance in The Wrestler will likely take this category, although for my money the best performance of the year was Frank Langella as Nixon in Frost / Nixon.
Gow: This is a tough category — Rourke, Langella and Sean Penn are all worthy opponents but as much as this has been the year of the comeback, I'm going with Sean Penn.
Alexander: I have been a staunch supporter of Mickey Rourke since I first saw him take that elevator ride to Hell back in 1987's Angel Heart, so it's a personal vindication to see Hollywood fall at his freakish feet.

BEST ACTRESS
Crouse: Kate Winslet — or Kate Wins-a-lot as I like to call her — has pretty much ruled this category so far this year, but I think the award should go to Meryl Streep in Doubt.
Alexander: Give me Angelina or give me death. I simply adored her in Changeling.

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Crouse: This is Heath Ledger's year and not because he died tragically, but because he deserves it. His take on The Joker in The Dark Knight was exciting, fun and the best thing in the movie.
Gow: Um, you were considering somebody else (other than Ledger)?

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Crouse: This should go to Viola Davis. With just five minutes of screen time in Doubt she created an unforgettable character that elevated the entire picture.
Gow: As much as I would love to see Marisa Tomei win this category, I am fairly certain Penelope Cruz will win voters' hearts.

Metro staff Oscar picks

We did a little Oscar voting of our own around the office. Here are the results:
BEST PICTURE
Slumdog Millionaire
BEST DIRECTOR
David Fincher
BEST ACTOR
Mickey Rourke
BEST ACTRESS
Kate Winslet
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Heath Ledger
BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
Taraji P. Henson

The 81st Annual Academy Awards

Chris Alexander
Movie Buff
Academy Awards Blog
metronews.ca

Chris Alexander is a regular contributor to Metro Canada and also writes for Fangoria and does movie reviews for A.M. 640 in Toronto. He will make regular blog updates during Sunday night's Academy Awards broadcast. Visit metronews.ca.

Red carpet fashion tips for Jolie, Winslet

The Associated Press asked stylist and Harper's Bazaar consultant Mary Alice Stephenson to make her own suggestions to the stars about what to wear to make the biggest style splash on the Oscars red carpet Sunday night:

ANGELINA JOLIE IN CALVIN KLEIN
Simple and sensual is the way for Jolie to go, Stephenson says, perhaps in a sleek jersey gown in a flesh tone or smoky grey from Calvin Klein. The gowns designed by Francisco Costa graze the body and look even better moving than standing still.

KATE WINSLET IN ALBERTA FERRETTI
Winslet has looked great this awards season. Now might be the time to be a goddess. Stephenson suggests, picking out a bronze ruffle-back gown with retro-style beading. Ferretti gowns have the built-in corsetry of the more architectural styles Winslet seems to favour, but the outward appearance is one of a softer touch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Your Oscar list

Want to test your Oscar prediction skills? Check off your picks from the list of nominees and find out who wins Sunday:

Best Picture
- ❑ The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
- ❑ Frost/Nixon
- ❑ Milk
- ❑ The Reader
- ❑ Slumdog Millionaire.

Best Actor
- ❑ Richard Jenkins, The Visitor
- ❑ Frank Langella, Frost/Nixon
- ❑ Sean Penn, Milk
- ❑ Brad Pitt, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
- ❑ Mickey Rourke, The Wrestler.

Best Actress
- ❑ Anne Hathaway, Rachel Getting Married
- ❑ Angelina Jolie, Changeling
- ❑ Melissa Leo, Frozen River
- ❑ Meryl Streep, Doubt
- ❑ Kate Winslet, The Reader

Best Supporting Actor
- ❑ Josh Brolin, Milk
- ❑ Robert Downey Jr., Tropic Thunder
- ❑ Philip Seymour Hoffman, Doubt
- ❑ Heath Ledger, The Dark Knight
- ❑ Michael Shannon, Revolutionary Road

Best Supporting Actress
- ❑ Amy Adams, Doubt
- ❑ Penelope Cruz, Vicky Cristina Barcelona
- ❑ Viola Davis, Doubt
- ❑ Taraji P. Henson, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
- ❑ Marisa Tomei, The Wrestler.

Best Director
- ❑ David Fincher, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
- ❑ Ron Howard, Frost/Nixon
- ❑ Gus Van Sant, Milk
- ❑ Stephen Daldry, The Reader
- ❑ Danny Boyle, Slumdog Millionaire

Best Animated Feature
- ❑ Bolt
- ❑ Kung-Fu Panda
- ❑ WALL-E.

Best Foreign Language Film
- ❑ The Baader Meinhof Complex (Germany)
- ❑ The Class (France)
- ❑ Departures (Japan)
- ❑ Revanche (Austria)
- ❑ Waltz with Bashir (Israel)

Best Adapted Screenplay
- ❑ Eric Roth and Robin Swicord, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
- ❑ John Patrick Shanley, Doubt; Peter Morgan, Frost/Nixon
- ❑ David Hare, The Reader
- ❑ Simon Beaufoy, Slumdog Millionaire

Best Original Screenplay
- ❑ Courtney Hunt, Frozen River
- ❑ Mike Leigh, Happy-Go-Lucky
- ❑ Martin McDonagh, In Bruges
- ❑ Dustin Lance Black, Milk
- ❑ Andrew Stanton, Jim Reardon and Pete Docter, WALL-E.

• For a complete list of nominees, visit metronews.ca

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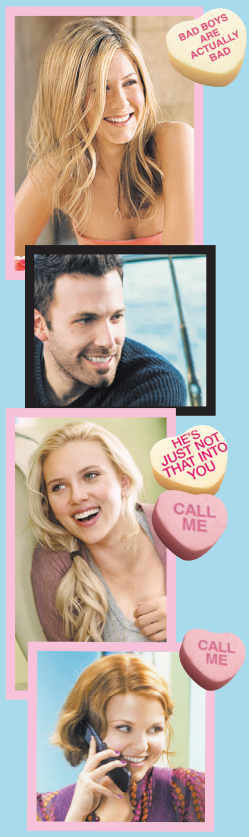

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BRUCE KIRKLAND, TORONTO SUN "★★★★½"

JASON ANDERSON, EYE WEEKLY "★★★★★"

JAY STONE, VANCOUVER SUN "★★★★½"

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Bullock takes on mommy role

Sandra Bullock is throwing in the towel as Hollywood rom-com go-to-girl, and embracing the joys of motherhood in her new role in the football drama-comedy The Blindside. EMPIREONLINE.COM

Fired Up but misguided

Fired **Up**

Director: Will Gluck
Stars: Nicholas D'Agosto, Eric Christian Olsen
Classification: PG
Rating: ◍◍½

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

There isn't much new to get fired up about in Fired Up. Sure, it's a teen comedy with plenty of innuendo, eye-catching cuties and huge over-the-top performances, but then, what else would you expect from a film that presumes a pick-up line like "do you like canopy beds" might actually work?

Nicholas D'Agosto and Eric Christian Olsen star as two sex-obsessed high school football stars that spend summer vacation at cheer camp with the sole goal of scoring as many pom-pom princesses as possible. Once there, they encounter the typical mélange of comic misfits: The resistant head cheerleader; her rich, insolent boyfriend; the gay neat-freak bunkmate; the sexy thirtysomething coach and a meek nerdy girl who tries to dampen outlandish statements like "I want to cut the blond one" by saying, "I'm just sayin."

The truth is, Fired Up is entertaining but it may not satisfy most moviegoers anticipating more visual raunch. The most surprising aspect about this comedy are the film's snappy, rapid-fire zingers and clever, acute references that nod to John Lennon and Spencer Tracey which may ultimately alienate the younger audience it will undoubtedly attract.

Written by Freedom Jones which, judging from the dialogue, may actually be a pseudonym for a syndicate of witty 40-something sitcom scribes, Fired Up isn't disappointing inasmuch as it's misguided. After all, this is a sex comedy for teens; if the characters don't get the references they themselves are uttering, how will its prospective audience? Hey, I'm just sayin'.

Nicholas D'Agosto, left, and Eric Christian Olsen star in the teen comedy Fired Up.

On the web

- For a trailer and screen times for Fired Up, visit metronews.ca/movies

Director's touch transforms Destiny

Stone of **Destiny**

Director: Charles Martin Smith
Stars: Robert Carlyle, Charlie Cox, Billy Boyd
Classification: PG
Rating: ◍◍◍½

IAN GORMELY
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Like Slumdog Millionaire this past fall, Stone of Destiny takes a typical Hollywood narrative (the heist flick in this case) and transposes it to an exotic location (post-WWII Scotland).

Based on the book written by the film's protagonist Ian Hamilton, Stone of Destiny follows a group of young Scottish nationalists in their quest to retake the titular rock; Scottish kings were crowned on the stone until it was stolen by the English in the 13th century. British monarchs have since used it for their own coronations, thereby making the English king, the king of Scotland as well.

Ian (Charlie Cox) believes that reclaiming the stone will rally the Scottish people around his group's cause. He enlists the help of friend Bill (Billy Boyd) and John MacCormick (Robert Carlyle), a professor and head of the Scottish independence movement to hatch a plan for its retrieval.

That the group recaptures the Stone and returns it to Scotland is both a historical and narrative inevitability. So the challenge for director Charles Martin Smith (The Snow Walker) is to suck viewers into the world he's created, something he accomplishes quite handily.

Audiences know how this story will end, but they'll be scratching their heads wondering how this band of amateurs ever pulled off such a feat.

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- For a trailer and screen times for Stone of Destiny, visit metronews.ca/movies

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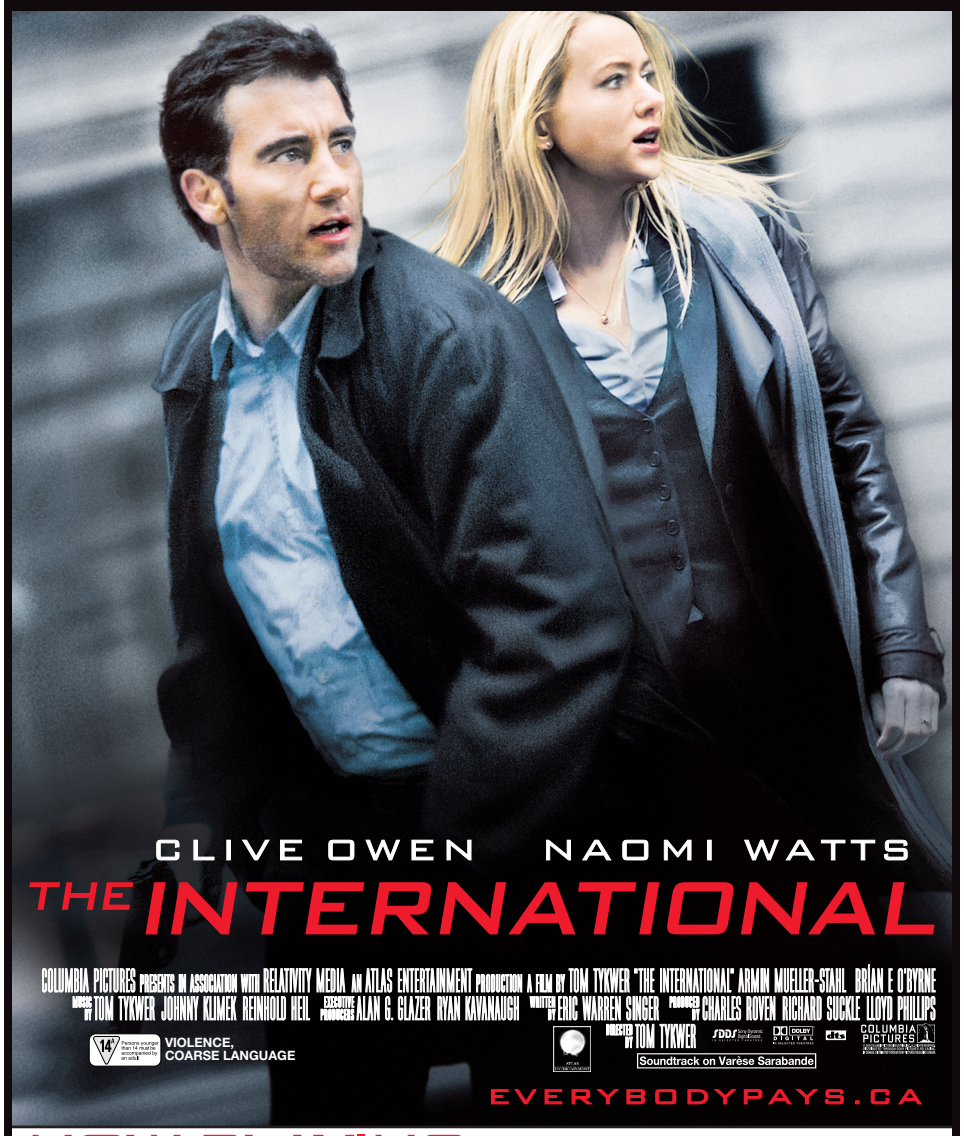
ROGER EBERT, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES ★ RICHARD ROEPER, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES ★ BEN KENIGSBERG, TIME OUT CHICAGO ★ MARK OLSEN, LOS ANGELES TIMES
"AN EXPERIENCE YOU WON'T FORGET."
- ROLLING STONE
"DEL TORO IS FLAWLESS."
- NEW YORK TIMES
ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER
BENICIO DEL TORO
CHE
FROM ACADEMY AWARD® WINNING DIRECTOR
STEVEN SODERBERGH
WINNER BEST ACTOR - CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2008
BENICIO DEL TORO
SEXUAL CONTENT, VIOLENCE, SUBTITLED
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF ROADSHOW EDITION
COLLECTOR PROGRAM AVAILABLE WITH EACH ADMISSION
EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT STARTS TODAY
AMC THEATRES YONGE & DUNDAS
TWO SCREENS SHOWTIMES:
1:30pm and 7:00pm
2:00pm and 8:00pm

"A SHOPPING BAG FULL OF LAUGHS!"
Rosey Edeh, ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT CANADA
"Isla Fisher is irresistible, in her most charming role yet."
Teri Hart, THE MOVIE NETWORK
ISLA FISHER
A JERRY BRUCKHEIMER PRODUCTION
CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC
ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON HOLLYWOOD RECORDS
FEATURING NEW TRACKS FROM:
SHONTELLE F/ AKON
JORDYN TAYLOR
LADY GAGA
PUSSYCAT DOLLS
NATASHA BEDINGFIELD
TREY SONGZ
AND MANY, MANY MORE
NOT RECOMMENDED FOR YOUNG CHILDREN, LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND
shopaholicmovie.com
FROM THE BEST-SELLING NOVEL
For Theatres and Showtimes: Check local listings or visit shopaholicmovie.com

"THE INTERNATIONAL"...
CRACKLES WITH TENSION... A PULSE-POUNDER...
THE PERFECT THRILLER FOR OUR TIMES."
Stephen Rebello, PLAYBOY



CLIVE OWEN NAOMI WATTS

THE INTERNATIONAL

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA AN ATLAS ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A FILM BY TOM TYKWER "THE INTERNATIONAL" ARMIN MUELLER-STAHL BRÍAN F O'BYRNE
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOM TYKWER JOHNNY KLIMEK REINHOLD HEIL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALAN G. GLAZER RYAN KAVANAUGH WRITTEN BY ERIC WARREN SINGER PRODUCED BY CHARLES ROVEN RICHARD SUCKLE LLOYD PHILLIPS

VIOLENCE, COARSE LANGUAGE

Soundtrack on Varèse Sarabande

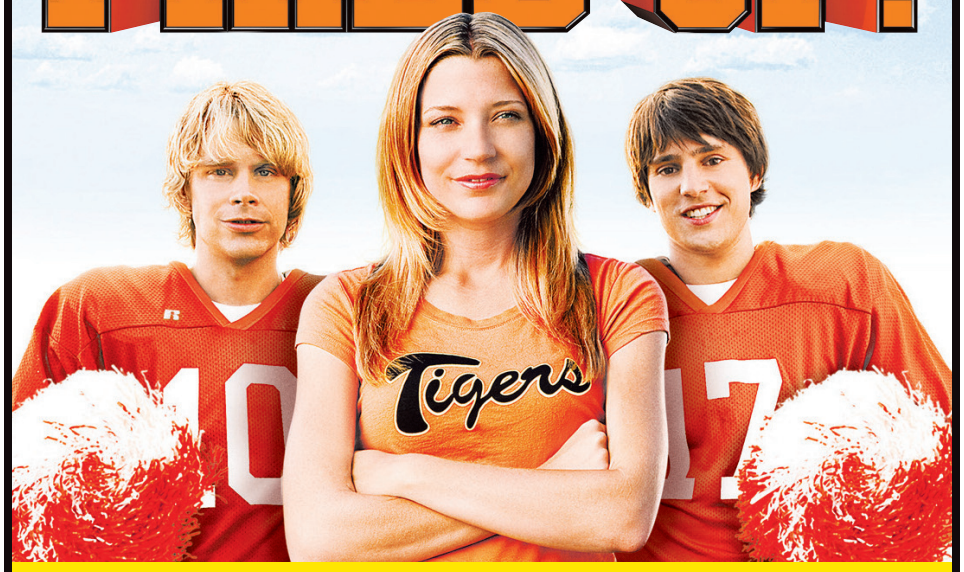
EVERYBODYPAYS.CA

NOW PLAYING Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

"HILARIOUS!"
Jeffrey Lyons, NBC/REEL TALK

"The movie never ceases to hit joke after joke.
There's a definite cleverness to it–
I couldn't stop laughing!"
AIN'T IT COOL NEWS

FIRED UP!



SCREEN GEMS PRESENTS A MOVING PICTURES AMG/GROSS ENTERTAINMENT/CHARLES WEINSTOCK PRODUCTION A FILM BY WILL GLUCK
"FIRED UP" NICHOLAS D'AGOSTO ERIC CHRISTIAN OLSEN SARAH ROEMER MOLLY SIMS DANNEEL HARRIS ADHIR KALYAN
ANNALYNNE McCORD WITH PHILIP BAKER HALL AND JOHN MICHAEL HIGGINS MUSIC SUPERVISOR WENDE CROWLEY MUSIC BY RICHARD GIBBS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS WILL GLUCK PADDY CULLEN MARCY GROSS ANN WESTON PRODUCED BY MATTHEW GROSS PETER JAYSEN CHARLES WEINSTOCK

PG LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND

Soundtrack Available Online

WRITTEN BY FREEDOM JONES DIRECTED BY WILL GLUCK

ThisIsNOTaCheerleadingMovie.com

STARTS TODAY Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

"A COMIC GEM."
Paul Fischer, DARK HORIZONS

STEVE MARTIN is INSPECTOR CLOUSEAU

INSPECT THE UNEXPECTED

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES AND COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENT A ROBERT SIMONDS PRODUCTION STEVE MARTIN "THE PINK PANTHER 2" JEAN RENO ALFRED MOLINA EMILY MORTIMER
AISHWARYA RAI BACHCHAN AND ANDY GARCIA WITH LILY TOMLIN AND JOHN CLEESE MUSIC BY CHRISTOPHE BECK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS IRA SHUMAN SHAWN LEVY BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY MAURICE RICHLIN & BLAKE EDWARDS
BASED ON THE PINK PANTHER FILMS OF BLAKE EDWARDS STORY BY SCOTT NEUSTADTER & MICHAEL H. WEBER SCREENPLAY BY SCOTT NEUSTADTER & MICHAEL H. WEBER AND STEVE MARTIN PRODUCED BY ROBERT SIMONDS

PG

PinkPanther.ca

DIRECTED BY HARALD ZWART

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NOW PLAYING Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

FIRST BLOCKBUSTER OF THE YEAR!

KEVIN JAMES IS PAUL BLART

MALL COP

DON'T MESS WITH HIS MALL

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA A HAPPY MADISON PRODUCTION "PAUL BLART: MALL COP"
JAYMA MAYS KEIR O'DONNELL BOBBY CANNAVALE STEPHEN RANNAZZISI AND SHIRLEY KNIGHT SUPERVISION BY MICHAEL DILBECK MUSIC BY WADDY WACHTEL
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JEFF SUSSMAN WRITTEN BY KEVIN JAMES & NICK BAKAY PRODUCED BY ADAM SANDLER JACK GIARRAPUTO TODD GARNER KEVIN JAMES BARRY BERNARDI

PG VIOLENCE

PaulBlart-MallCop.ca

DIRECTED BY STEVE CARR

NOW PLAYING Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

Also opening

Also opening today is Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail, the latest film in his Madea series. For screen times and a trailer, visit metronews.ca/movies. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Reel Time

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Che a true epic

Che
Director: Steve Soderbergh
Stars: Benicio Del Toro, Catalina Sandino Morenao
Classification: STC
Rating:

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Arguably the most divisive movie of the 2008 festival circuit, Che makes its Canadian debut in the format the filmmakers originally intended. This special "roadshow" edition of Che is the full 4.5-hour beast unleashed on audiences with only a brief intermission to curb the butt-numbing.

Benicio Del Toro plays the iconic Che Guevara in Che.

Although the epic cinematic experience will knock a day out of your life, this is really the only way to fully appreciate Steven Soderbergh and Benicio Del Toro's impressive work. Che is a biopic mercifully free of cliché, telling the story of the world's most infamous T-shirt icon in a manner befitting of his incredible achievements and tragic failures.

The first half of the film gives audiences the Che Guevara movie they'd expect. Filmed in vibrant colours and rich monochromatic black and white, the first chapter tells the story of Guevara's triumphant involvement in the Cuban revolution.

Soderbergh's handheld cameras go deep into the jungle to show the day-to-day struggles Guevara encountered leading his revolutionary army intercut with faux-newsreel footage of Che's infamous speech to the UN following the victory. It's an inspiring film that will leave the audience smiling at the break.

When they return, Soderbergh starts shooting the second chapter in drained colours and a less flamboyant style, making it clear from the first frame that something is very wrong. The second half then follows Guevera's failed attempt to bring the revolution to Bolivia, leading to a tragic finale.

The two halves of the film play off each other wonderfully. Soderbergh expertly toys with audience expectations without ever becoming manipulative. Though the culminative experience of watching two feature films is undeniably exhausting, that's actually part of the point.

You'll feel like you've gone through Che's epic journey at the end rather than simply watching a highlight reel of his life. Unfortunately, it's a cinematic experience that will clash with contemporary ADD big screen entertainment, but one that should have a long and healthy life on DVD.

Cadillac worth the ride

Cadillac Records
Director: Darnell Martin
Stars: Adrian Brody, Beyoncé
Classification: STC
Rating: ½

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

Beyoncé plays singer Etta James in Cadillac Records.

REVIEW Having already enjoyed a theatrical run in the U.S., Cadillac Records, director Darnell Martin's epic fictionalized investigation into the birth of blues and the legendary label that popularized it in the '50s.

It's a somewhat frustrating affair, albeit one armed with a treasure trove of riches that trump its shortcomings tenfold.

The film charts the evolution of Chess Records, a fledgling outfit run by Leonard Chess (a solid Adrian Brody), a white entrepreneur and music enthusiast who capitalized on so-called "race" artists that played deep, down dirty southern blues.

His unofficial partner in the enterprise is growly up-and-comer Muddy Waters (Jeffrey Wright) who becomes the label's first meal ticket, but not their last. The Chess roster eventually signs such heavy hitters as the intimidating Howlin' Wolf (Eamonn Walker), vocalist Etta James (pop diva Beyoncé, who also executive produced) and the father of rock 'n' roll himself, Chuck Berry (Mos Def).

As fortunes increase, Leonard attempts to navigate his volatile stars while simultaneously breaking new ground for black artists to be embraced (and, in some cases, ripped off) by white America.

This is rowdy, passionate and massively entertaining stuff partially undone by the fact that the scope of its story is just too mammoth to cram into a two-hour time frame. In fact there are moments when Cadillac Records feels like a sprawling TV miniseries clumsily hacked down to feature length (Norman Reedus as Leonard's brother Phil is barely identified).

But when the film is good, baby it's really, really good and occasionally, it even courts brilliance, offering an embarrassment of incredible performances — Wright and especially, believe it or not, Beyoncé, are blistering and Oscar worthy — and some of the most fantastic vintage blues music ever assembled in any movie, ever.

Flawed but utterly hypnotic, Cadillac Records is ambitious and inarguably alive. Even if you don't love the blues, you'll be entertained but if you do, you'll want to see it twice.

Life's got food for head and heart

The Necessities of Life
Director: Benoit Pilon
Stars: Natar Ungalaaq, Éveline Gélinas, Paul-André Brasseur
Classification: PG
Rating: ½

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Deeply moving without ever succumbing to shameless sentimentality, The Necessities Of Life was justifiably Canada's selection for this year's best foreign film Oscar.

Unfortunately, the movie was not able to claim a nomination, but that should in no way discourage audiences from seeing one of our nation's finest films in recent years.

The movie can be a difficult and upsetting cinematic experience, but one with rich rewards for audiences willing to tough it out with their hankies.

Natar Ungalaaq stars as Tiviim, an Inuk from the far North who is separated from his family and shipped to Quebec after being diagnosed with tuberculosis. Tivii soon finds himself in a hospital room surrounded by incommunicative hospital staff.

There, Tivii befriends a nurse (Éveline Gélinas) who introduces him to an Inuk boy (Paul-André Brasseur) who gives Tivii a reason to survive his ordeal.

Given that so much of the film is about isolation, depression, and culture shock, this movie can hardly be described as entertaining. But thanks to subdued direction from Benoit Pilon and some deeply moving performances, it's still an intellectually nourishing night at the movies.

Cineplex | Empire | AMC | Alliance Atlantis | Rainbow Cinemas | Independent

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB. 20 TO THURS., FEB. 26. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

DOWNTOWN

BLOOR THEATRE
506 Bloor St., 416-516-2330

Cadillac Records (18A) Fri-Sat 9:30 Sun 5 Mon-Tue 4:30-9:15 Wed 7 Thu 9
Repo! The Genetic Opera (18A) Tue 11:30 Wed 4:30-9:15 Thu 11:30
Tell No One (14A) Thu 4:30
Twilight (PG) Fri 4:15 Sat 4:30
Us Now (STC) Thu 7
World's Best Commercials: The 2008 Cannes Lions Ad Awards (STC) Fri 7 Sat 2:15-7 Sun 2:45 Mon-Tue 7

CARLTON
20 Carlton St., 416-598-2309

Doubt (PG) Fri-Wed 1:55-4:25-7:25-9:50 Thu 1:55-4:25-7:25
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Wed 1:40-4:10-6:55-9:25 Thu 1:40-4:10-9:50
Happy-Go-Lucky (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:15-7-9:35
I've Loved You So Long (French w/e.s.t.) (14A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-7:15-9:45
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:30-6:40-9
Rachel Getting Married (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7:20-10
Trouble the Water (STC) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:45-7:10-9:20
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (14A) Fri-Thu 2-4:05-6:45-9:10
Waltz With Bashir (Hebrew w/e.s.t.) (18A) Fri-Thu 2:15-4:40-7:30-9:30

CUMBERLAND CINEMAS
159 Cumberland Ave., 416-646-0444

The Class (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-4-7-10
The Reader (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:40
Wendy and Lucy (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:15-9:50
The Wrestler (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:45-6:45-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE
259 Richmond St., 416-368-5600

Billu Barber (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-7:10-10:20
Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Tue 1:20-4-6:45-9:20 Wed 1:20-4:10 Thu 6:45-10
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-7-9:40
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:20-6:20-9:10
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:40-10 Mon 12:30-3:40-10 Tue-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:40-10 Fri 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30
The International (14A) Fri 1-3:50-6:50-9:45 Sat 1-4:15-6:50-9:45 Sun-Thu 1-3:50-6:50-9:45
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
My Bloody Valentine (18A) Fri-Thu 2:10-5:10-8:10-10:30
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:15-9:50
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:20-7:20-9:55
Under the Sea 3D (STC) Fri-Thu 12:30-2-3:30-5-6:30-8-9:30
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:10
The Uninvited (14A) Fri 1:50-4:50-7:45-10:15 Sat 4:50-7:45-10:15 Sun-Thu 1:50-4:50-7:45-10:15
The Wrestler (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:50-10:25

MARKET SQUARE
80 Front St., 416-494-9371

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:10-11:20 Sat-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:10
Coraline (PG) Fri-Wed 12:50-3-5:10-7:20 Thu 3-5:10-7:20
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 12:45-2:50-5-7:15-9:30-11:35 Sat-Thu 12:45-2:50-5-7:15-9:30
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 1-3:45-6:30-9-11:30 Sat-Thu 1-3:45-6:30-9
Rachel Getting Married (14A) Fri-Thu 9:25 Thu 1
The Reader (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-7
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 1:15-4-6:50-9:20-11:40 Sat-Thu 1:15-4-6:50-9:20
The Wrestler (14A) Fri-Thu 4:20-9:35

THE ROYAL
608 College St., 416-466-4400

The Necessities of Life (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat 4:30-7-9:30 Sun 4:30-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15

VARSITY
55 Bloor St. W., 416-961-6304

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7-9:40
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 1-5-9
Doubt (PG) Fri-Sun 1:35-4:15-7:05-9:45 Mon 1:35-4:15-9:45 Tue-Thu 1:35-4:15-7:05-9:45
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:20-10:15 Mon 1:20-4:10-10:15 Tue-Wed 1:20-4:10-7:20-10:15 Thu 4:10-7:20-10:15
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:55-9:55
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:30-6:40-10 Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:35-9:35
Milk (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:30-9:20
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:20-6:20-9:10 Mon 12:40-3:20-9:40 Tue-Wed 12:40-3:20-6:20-9:10 Thu 12:40-3:20-9:10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:15-10:10 Fri-Thu 12:35-3:25-6:15-9:05
Stone of Destiny (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:10-9:50

CANADA SQUARE
2200 Yonge St., 416-646-0444

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri 4:30-8:15 Sat-Sun 1-4:30-8:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-8:15
Defiance (14A) Fri-Thu 9
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri 4:50-7:30-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:30-10:15
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 4-6:40 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-6:40 Mon-Thu 4-6:40
Milk (14A) Fri 4:10-7:9:50 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:10-7-9:50
The Necessities of Life (French w/e.s.t.) (PG) Fri 4:30-6:50-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:30-6:50-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-6:50-9:15
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 5-7:20-9:30 Sat-Sun 2:10-5-7:20-9:30 Mon-Thu 5-7:20-9:30
The Reader (14A) Fri 4:20-7:10-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:10-9:55
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 5-7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 2-5-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 5-7:30-10:10

MT. PLEASANT THEATRE
675 Mt.Pleasant Rd., 416-489-8484

Gran Torino (14A) Fri 9:20 Sat 9:30 Sun 4:30 Wed 7 Thu 9:10
Rachel Getting Married (14A) Fri 7 Sat 4:15-7 Sun 2 Tue 7 Thu 7

REGENT THEATRE
551 Mt.Pleasant Rd., 416-480-9884

Examined Life (STC) Fri-Sat 9 Thu 8:50
I've Loved You So Long (14A) Sat-Sun 2 Tue 7
Waltz With Bashir (18A) Fri 7 Sat 4:30-7 Sun 4:30 Thu 7

YONGE-EGLINTON CENTRE
2300 Yonge St., 416-544-1236

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:50-7:30-10
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:05 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:05 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:10-7:40-10:05
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:10-9:40
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 2-5-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 2-5-7:50-10:15
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Sat 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:25 Sun-Tue 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Wed 3:45-6:30-9:30 Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:50
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 1:20-4:20-6:40-9:10 Sat 4:20-6:40-9:10 Sun-Thu 1:20-4:20-6:40-9:10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:20-10:10
Taken (14A) Fri-Tue 1:30-4:30-6:50-9:20 Wed 4:30-6:50-9:20 Thu 1:30-4:30-6:50-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1

YONGE & DUNDAS 24
10 Dundas St East, 416-977-2642

AMC Best Picture Showcase: 2009 Oscar Nominees (STC) Special Engagement Sat 10:30
Bride Wars (PG) Fri 4:10-10:30 Sat-Sun 10:55-4:10-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:10-10:30
Che (STC) Special Engagement Fri-Thu 1:30-2-7-8
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Special Engagement Fri 1:40-2:20-3-3:40-4:20-5-5:40-6:20-7-7:40-8:20-9-9:40-10:20-10:45 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11-11:40-12:20-1:40-2:20-3-3:40-4:20-5-5:40-6:20-7-7:40-8:20-9-9:40-10:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:20-3-3:40-4:20-5-5:40-6:20-7-7:40-8:20-9-9:40-10:20-10:45
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri 2:30-6:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 11-2:30-6:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 2:30-6:45-10:15
Defiance (14A) Fri 1:35-4:35-7:25-10:25 Sun 1:35-4:35-7:25-10:25 Mon-Wed 1:45-4:35-7:25-10:25 Thu 1:45-4:35
Delhi 6 (PG) Special Engagement Fri 1:20-4:10-7-10 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 10:25-1:20-4:10-7-10 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10
Friday the 13th (18A) Special Engagement Fri 1:15-1:45-2:45-3:45-4:30-5:30-6:15-7:15-8-9-10-10:45 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 10:45-12:15-1:45-2:45-3:45-4:30-5:30-6:15-7:15-8-9-10-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:45-2:45-3:45-4:30-5:30-6:15-7:15-8-9-10-10:45
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-7:25
Milk (14A) Fri 1:25-4:25-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 10:35-1:25-4:25-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:20-10:10
Nurse.Fighter.Boy (STC) Fri-Thu 2:40-7:05
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 1:15-3:25-5:45-8:05-10:20 Sat-Sun 11:05-1:15-3:25-5:45-8:05-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:25-5:45-8:05-10:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 2:30-5-7:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 12-2:30-5-7:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 2:30-5-7:30-9:45
Push (14A) Fri 1:40-2:40-4:20-5:20-7:10-8:10-9:40-10:40 Sat-Sun 10:55-12:05-1:40-2:40-4:20-5:20-7:10-8:10-9:40-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:40-4:20-5:20-7:10-8:10-9:40-10:40
The Reader (14A) Fri 1:35-4:25-7:20-10:05 Sat-Sun 10:50-1:35-4:25-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:25-7:20-10:05
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri 2:05-4:55-7:45-10:25 Sat-Sun 11:15-2:05-4:55-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:05-4:55-7:45-10:25
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 1:20-2:20-4:05-5:05-6:50-7:50-9:45-10:40 Sat-Sun 11:15-1:20-2:20-4:05-5:05-6:50-7:50-9:40-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:20-4:05-5:05-6:50-7:50-9:45-10:40
Stone of Destiny (PG) Fri 2:50-5:15-7:35-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:30-2:50-5:15-7:35-9:50 Mon-Thu 2:50-5:15-7:35-9:50
Welcome to the Sticks (PG) Fri 4:50-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:10-4:50-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:50-9:55

WEST END

ALBION CINEMAS
1530 Albion Rd., 416-742-3456

Billu Barber (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri 7 Sat 1:30-7-12:15 Sun 1:30-7 Mon-Thu 6:45
Delhi 6 (PG) Fri 4:15-9:45 Sat 4:15-9:45-12:15 Sun 4:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 4-9:30
Jag Jeondeyan de Mele (G) Fri 3-6:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 12-3-6:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 3-6:15-9:30

QUEENSWAY
1025 The Queensway, 416-503-0424

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20 Sat 4:20-7:20-10:20 Sun 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20 Mon 1:30-4:20-10:20 Tue-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:20
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:10-10
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-4:05-8
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:55-7-9:40
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:55-7:50-10:30
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:45-7:45-10:40
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:15-7:35-10:45
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:30-6:25
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:45-6:40-10:10
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:40-6:15-8:50
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:25-7:05-9:45
Push (14A) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-6:35-9:50
The Reader (14A) Fri-Tue 1-4:10-7:30-10:35 Wed 4:10-7:30-10:35 Thu 1-4:10-7:30-10:35 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:30-9:35
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:50-6:50-10:05
Stone of Destiny (PG) Fri-Tue 1-4-6:45-9:30 Wed 4-6:45-9:30 Thu 1-4-6:45-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:35-7:15-9:55
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:50-7:40-10:15
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20

WOODBINE CENTRE
500 Rexdale Blvd., 416-213-1998

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:55-9:20
Coraline (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:40-6:50-9
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-2:45-5-7:15-9:25
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:30-4:05
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:10-6:55-9:40
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-2:55-5:10-7:25-9:35
Push (14A) Fri-Thu 7-9:20
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-4-6:50-9:30
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7-9:30

EAST END

BEACH CINEMAS
1651 Queen St. E., 416-699-5971

Coraline (PG) Fri 4:20-6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:20-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 4:50-7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:50
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 4-7-10 Sat-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 7-10
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
The Reader (14A) Fri 3:50-6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:40
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 4:30-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:20-10:10
Taken (14A) Fri-Sat 4:40-7:10-9:30 Sun 1:40-4:40-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30

FOX THEATRE
2236 Queen St. E., 416-691-7330

Defiance (14A) Fri-Sat 9:20 Mon 9:20 Tue 9:15
Encounters at the End of the World (STC) Wed-Thu 7
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri 7 Sat 4-7 Sun 4 Mon 7 Wed 1:30
M*A*S*H (STC) Tue 6:30
Quantum of Solace (PG) Wed 9 Thu 9:15
The Tale of Despereaux (G) Sat-Sun 2

NORTH YORK

SHEPPARD GRANDE
4861 Yonge St., 416-590-9974

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 3:40-7-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-7-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:40-7-9:40
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri 4-8:15 Sat-Sun 12:30-4-8:15 Mon-Thu 4-8:15
Delhi 6 (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (PG) Fri 5:15-9 Sat-Sun 2-5:15-9 Mon-Thu 5:15-9
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:20-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:10
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Sat 6:40 Sun 12:50-6:40 Mon-Thu 6:40
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 3:30-6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:30
The International (14A) Fri 4:10-6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:10-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:50-9:50
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 3:55-7:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:30-3:55-7:30-9:45 Mon 3:55-9:45 Tue-Thu 3:55-7:30-9:45
Push (14A) Fri 3:50-9:20 Sat 9:20 Sun-Thu 3:50-9:20
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 4:30-7:10-10 Sat-Sun 1:45-4:30-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:10-10
Taken (14A) Fri 4:15-6:45-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:15-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:45-9:15

EMPRESS WALK
5095 Yonge St., 416-223-9550

Billu Barber (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Fri 3:40-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Mon-Thu 3:40-6:30-9:30
Coraline 3D (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 4:40-7:10-9:35 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:40-4:40-7:10-9:35 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 4:40-7:10-9:35
Defiance (14A) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:45-6:45-9:45 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 3:45-6:45-9:45
Fired Up (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:30-7:30-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:30-7:30-10
Frost/Nixon (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:40
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 4:20-7:05
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:35-7-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:35-4:35-7-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:35-7-9:20
The Reader (14A) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 4:05-6:50-9:55 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 1:05-4:05-6:50-9:55 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 4:05-6:50-9:55
Revolutionary Road (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:10-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:10-7:20-10:05
Stone of Destiny (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:15-7:15-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15-9:40
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:20
The Wrestler (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-4-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-9:25

SILVERCITY YORKDALE 6
3401 Dufferin St., 416-444-3456

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sat 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:55 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:45
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:20-6:30-9:40
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sat 2-4:50-7:40-10:25 Sun-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:15-9:55
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sat 12:30-3:40-7:10:20 Sun-Thu 12:30-3:40-6:50-10
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sat 1:20 Sun-Thu 12:55
The International (14A) Fri-Sat 12:30-3:30-6:55-10:10 Sun-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:55-10
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4-6:40-9:30
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:20-9:15
Push (14A) Fri-Sat 4:20-7:15-10:15 Sun-Thu 4-7-9:55
Taken (14A) Fri-Tue 1-4:10-7:10-9:50 Wed 1-4:10-9:50 Thu 1-4:10-7:10-9:50
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:20-10

SILVERCITY FAIRVIEW
1800 Sheppard Ace. E., 416-644-7746

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:45-9:30
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:30-6:30-9:10
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:20-9:40
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Thu 2:10-5:15-7:50-10:15
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:10-10
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:30-10:15
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-6:50-9:20
Push (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-7:10-9:50
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 2-4:45-7:40-10

SCARBOROUGH

COLISEUM SCARBOROUGH
300 Borough Dr., 416-290-5217

Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:20
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 9:30
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-4:30-7:35-10:20
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Thu 1-2:10-3:55-4:50-7-7:40-10-10:30
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:45
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:30
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:25-7:05-10:05
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-6:40-9:40
Push (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:45-10:25
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Thu 10:10
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:10-9:50
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15
The Uninvited (14A) Fri 1:45-4:45-7:25-9:55 Sat 4:45-7:25-9:55 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:45-7:25-9:55

EGLINTON TOWN CENTRE
1901 Eglinton Ave. E., 416-752-4494

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:45
Coraline (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:20-9 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:20-9
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 8:40
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:55-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:55-9:30
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 2-4:45-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:45-10:20
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:35-9:35 Mon 3:40 Tue-Thu 3:40-6:35-9:35
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4:10-7:15-10:30 Mon-Tue 4:10-7:15-10:20 Wed 4:10-7:10:20 Thu 4:10-7:15-10:20
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:55-6 Mon-Thu 3:30-6
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:15-7:20-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:20-10:15
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:10-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:30-9:10
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12-2:40-6:10-8:50 Mon-Thu 3:25-6:10-8:50
Push (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:20
The Reader (14A) Fri-Sun 12:05-6:15 Mon-Thu 6:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:40-9:40
Taken (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:35-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:25-10
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Sun 1:35-4:20-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:10-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:25-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:35-10:10
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Sun 3:15-9:15 Mon-Thu 3:55-9:15

401 & MORNINGSIDE
785 Milner Ave., 416-281-2226

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4:05-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:05-6:45-9:25
Coraline (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:45-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-9:15
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Sun 1:35-4:50-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:30-10
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:30-7:40-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:25-9:55

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB. 20 TO THURS., FEB. 26. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:40-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:30-9:35
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:25 Mon-Thu 4:25
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:15-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:15-7-9:45
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:20-9:40
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:55-6:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:55-6:15-9:10
Push (14A) Fri-Sun 7:05-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:50
Taken (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:10-7:35-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:40-9:20
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:7:15-10:05 Mon-Thu 4-7:15-10:05

KENNEDY COMMONS 20
33 William Kitchen Rd., 416-335-5323

Billu Barber (G) Special Engagement Fri 3:45-6:50-9:55 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 12:35-3:45-6:50-9:55 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-9:55
Bride Wars (PG) Fri 3:30-5:45-8-10:25 Sat-Sun 11-1:15-3:30-5:45-8-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:30-5:45-8-10:25
The Class (PG) Fri 4-7:05-10 Sat-Sun 1:05-4-7:05-10 Mon-Thu 4-7:05-10
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Special Engagement Fri 2-2:45-4:30-5:15-7-7:45-9:30-10:15 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:30-12:15-2-2:45-4:30-5:15-7-7:45-9:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 2-2:45-4:30-5:15-7-7:45-9:30-10:15
Defiance (14A) Fri 4:25-10:05 Sat-Sun 11-4:25-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:25-10:05
Delhi 6 (PG) Special Engagement Fri 4:05-7:10-10:15 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 1-4:05-7:10-10:15 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 4:05-7:10-10:15
Doubt (PG) Fri 2:25-4:55-7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 12-2:25-4:55-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 2:25-4:55-7:15-9:40
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri 7:25 Sat-Sun 1:50-7:25 Mon-Thu 7:25
Gran Torino (14A) Fri 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:50 Sat-Sun 11:20-2:10-4:40-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:50
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 2-4-4:45-6:55-7:40-9:45-10:30 Sat-Sun 11:05-1:05-2-4-4:45-6:55-7:40-9:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 2-4-4:45-6:55-7:40-9:45-10:30
The International (14A) Special Engagement Fri 2:30-4:25-5:10-7:05-7:50-9:50-10:30 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:05-11:25-1:45-2:30-4:25-5:10-7:05-7:50-9:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:30-4:25-5:10-7:05-7:50-9:50-10:30
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Fri 3:15-5:35-7:55-10:10 Sat-Sun 12:55-3:15-5:35-7:55-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:15-5:35-7:55-10:10
Milk (14A) Fri 2:05-4:50-7:35-10:20 Sat-Sun 11:10-2:05-4:50-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:05-4:50-7:35-10:20
The Reader (14A) Fri 2:05-4:45-7:30-10:10 Sat-Sun 11:15-2:05-4:45-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 2:05-4:45-7:30-10:10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 2:15-4:15-5-7-7:45-9:45-10:25 Sat-Sun 11:30-1:30-2:15-4:15-5-7-7:45-9:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:15-5-7-7:45-9:45-10:25
Stone of Destiny (PG) Special Engagement Fri 3:10-5:30-7:50-10:05 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:05 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 3:10-5:30-7:50-10:05
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 2:45-5:15-7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:15-7:40-10:20

WOODSIDE CINEMAS
1571 Sandhurst Circle, 416-299-3456

Billu Barber (G) Fri 3:45-6:30-9:15 Sat 1-3:45-6:30-9:15-12:15 Sun 1-3:45-6:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:30-9:15
Delhi 6 (PG) Fri 3:45-6:45-9:30 Sat 1-3:45-6:45-9:30-12:15 Sun 1-3:45-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:45-9:30

PEEL REGION

CINÉ STARZ
377 Burnhamthorpe Rd. E., 905-290-2401

Australia (PG) Fri 3:40-8:35 Sat 8:35 Sun 3:40-8:35 Mon-Thu 1:15-6:10
Bolt (G) Fri-Sun 1:35-3:10-6:20-7:55 Mon-Thu 1:15-3-6:35-8:10
Doubt (PG) Fri-Sun 7:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:20-7:10-9
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri-Sun 4:50-7 Mon-Thu 2:50-6:30-8:35
Madagascar 2 (G) Fri-Sun 12-1:35-3:10 Mon-Thu 1:15-4:55
Seven Pounds (14A) Fri-Sun 3:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:05
Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:05-4:45
Twilight (PG) Fri-Sun 12-6:30-9:05 Mon-Thu 4:05
Valkyrie (PG) Fri-Sun 5:45 Mon-Thu 4:35
Yes Man (PG) Fri-Sun 12-1:50 Mon-Thu 1:30-9

COLISEUM 10
309 Rathburn Rd., 905-275-3456

Bride Wars (PG) Fri 1:20-4:20-7:15 Sat 4:20-7:15 Sun-Thu 1:20-4:20-7:15
Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Delhi 6 (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:15-6:40-10
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Thu 2-5-7:45-10:10
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-1-3:10-4:10-6:20-7:20-9:30-10:30 Sun 12:10-1-3:10-3:45-6:20-7:20-9:30-10:15 Mon 12:10-1-3:10-3:45-6:20-7:20-9:30-10:15 Tue-Thu 12:10-1-3:10-4:10-6:20-7:20-9:30-10:15
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Tue 12:30-3:30-6:30 Wed 3:40-6:30 Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
My Bloody Valentine 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10-10:05
Notorious (18A) Fri-Thu 9:45
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:10-9:10
The Reader (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Tue 1:10-4-7-9:55 Wed 4-7-9:55 Thu 1:10-4-7-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Under the Sea 3D (STC) Fri-Thu 12-1:30-3-4:30-6-7:30-9
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Sat 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:20 Sun 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:05 Mon 1:50-4:40 Tue 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:05 Wed 12:40-10:05 Thu 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:05
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Sat 1:40-4:50-7:50-10:25 Sun-Thu 1:40-4:50-7:50-10:10

COURTNEY PARK 16
110 Courtney Park Dr., 905-362-1210

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Special Engagement Fri 2-4:40-7:20-10 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:25-2-4:40-7:20-10 Mon-Thu 2-4:40-7:20-10
Coraline (PG) Fri 2:25-4:55-7:25-9:55 Sat-Sun 11:50-2:25-4:55-7:25-9:55 Mon-Thu 2:25-4:55-7:25-9:55
Fired Up (PG) Special Engagement Fri-Thu 1:05-3:20-5:50-8:10-10:35
Friday the 13th (18A) Special Engagement Fri 1:15-2:30-3:30-5-5:55-7:15-8:15-9:50-10:45 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 12:15-1:15-2:30-3:30-5-5:55-7:15-8:15-9:50-10:45 Mon-Thu 1:15-3:30-5:55-7:15-8:15-9:50-10:45
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 2:20-7:30
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-10:20
The International (14A) Special Engagement Fri-Sun 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:35-7:30-10:15
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 2:05-4:30-6:55-9:30 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:05-4:30-6:55-9:30 Mon-Thu 2:05-4:30-6:55-9:30
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 2:50-5:15-7:40-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:35-2:50-5:15-7:40-9:55 Mon-Thu 2:50-5:15-7:40-9:55
Push (14A) Fri 2:35-5:10-7:55-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:05-2:35-5:10-7:55-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:35-5:10-7:55-10:30
The Reader (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10-10:05
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 1:50-4:45-7:35-10:20 Sat-Sun 11-1:50-4:45-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:45-7:35-10:20
Taken (14A) Fri 2:15-4:50-7:05-9:35 Sat-Sun 11:45-2:15-4:50-7:05-9:35 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:50-7:05-9:35
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Special Engagement Fri 2:45-5:20-7:45-10:25 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 12:10-2:45-5:20-7:45-10:25 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 2:45-5:20-7:45-10:25
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri 5:05-10:15 Sat-Sun 11:55-5:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:05-10:15
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:25-5:45-8:20-10:40 Mon-Thu 8:20-10:40

ORION GATE GRANDE
20 Biscayne Cr., 905-455-1590

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 3:30-6:45-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:55-9:35
Fired Up (PG) Fri 3:40-7:20-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-7:20-9:45 Mon-Thu 3:40-7:05-9:25
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 4:45-7:35-10 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:45-7:35-10 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:20-9:50
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 4-7:05-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:30-4-7:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:40-9:45
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 3:45 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45 Mon-Thu 3:45
The International (14A) Fri 4:25-7:10-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:25-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:10-9:55
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 4:15-6:35-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:15-6:35-9:20 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:35-9:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 3:55-6:25-9:15 Sat-Sun 12:55-3:55-6:25-9:15 Mon-Thu 3:55-6:25-9:15
Push (14A) Fri-Sun 6:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 7-9:40
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 4:05-6:50-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:05-6:50-9:35 Mon-Thu 4-6:45-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Taken (14A) Fri 4:35-7:25-10:05 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:35-7:25-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:30-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1

SILVERCITY MISSISSAUGA
3055 Vega Blvd., 905-569-3373

Bride Wars (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-6:50-9:10 Mon-Thu 4:20-6:50-9:10
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20-10:05
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:50-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:50-10:15
Defiance (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:40-9:40
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:50-7:40-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:40-10:15
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:30 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:30
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 4-7-10
Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:45-9:30
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:30-10:10
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20
Stone of Destiny (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10-9:50

SQUARE ONE
100 City Centre Dr., 905-275-2640

Billu Barber (G) Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:10-10:15
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Stadium Seating, THX, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:9:40 Stadium Seating, THX Mon-Thu 1:40-4:20-7-9:40 Stadium Seating Thu 11
Coraline 3D (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4-6:50-9:20
Friday the 13th (18A) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 2:15-5-7:50-10:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:15-5-7:50-10:20
Hotel for Dogs (G) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40
The International (14A) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-10:10
Jag Jeondeyan de Mele (G) Stadium Seating, Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1:20-5:10-9
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:50-7:30-9:50
Push (14A) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:30-9:10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:50-6:40-9:30
Taken (14A) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2:30-5:20-7:40-10

NORTH

AURORA CINEMAS
15460 Bayview Ave., 905-841-1789

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 4-6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-4-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50
Defiance (14A) Fri 4:10-7:15-10:20 Sat-Sun 12:40-4:10-7:15-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 5-7:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 2:15-5-7:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 7:40-10
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 3:50-7-10:10 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:50-7-10:10 Mon-Thu 7-9:50
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 3:40-6:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:40
The International (14A) Fri 4:30-7:40-10:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 4:40-7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:45-4:40-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:40
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 3:30-6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10
Push (14A) Fri-Sun 9:20 Mon-Thu 9
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 4:20-7:10-10 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 7-9:45
Taken (14A) Fri 4:50-7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 2-4:50-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1

COLOSSUS 19
3555 Hwy 7 West, 905-851-1001

Bride Wars (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-3:50-7:25-9:45 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:30-10:05
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 12:40-1:45-3:40-4:45-7-7:50-10-10:40 Sat 12:40-1:30-3:40-4:45-7-7:50-10-10:40 Sun 12:40-1:45-3:40-4:45-7-7:50-10-10:40 Mon-Thu 3:30-4:25-6:45-7:15-9:30-10
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Sun 2:15-6:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 4-8:10
The Day the Earth Stood Still: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 4-7-10
Defiance (14A) Fri-Sun 9:30 Mon-Thu 9
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:55-10:35 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:05-9:50
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 12:50-1:20-4-4:30-7:15-7:40-10:20-10:45 Sat 1:20-4-4:30-7:15-7:40-10:20-10:45 Sun 12:50-1:20-4-4:30-7:15-7:40-10:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 3:40-4:10-6:40-7:10-9:40-10:10
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-3:20-6:40 Mon-Thu 3-6:10
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:15-6:55 Mon-Thu 3:45-6:25
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:20-7:30-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:15-10:05
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
My Bloody Valentine 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 2:10-5:10-8:10-10:45 Mon-Thu 5-7:50-10:15
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:35 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20-9:45
Push (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:15-9:55
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri-Sun 9:15 Mon-Thu 8:40
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4:10-7:20-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:50-9:35
Twilight (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:10-6:20-9:20 Mon-Thu 3:20-6:30-9:20
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:10-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:15-7-9:45
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Sun 2-5-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 5:20-8-10:15
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:25-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:45-10:10

ELGIN MILLS 10
10909 Yonge St., 905-770-6998

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) No Passes Fri 7-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:40-7-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-9
Coraline (PG) Fri 6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:30-8
Friday the 13th (18A) No Passes Fri 7:40-10:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 2-4:40-7:40-10:20 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 1-4-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40
Hotel for Dogs (G) Sat-Sun 1:20-4:30
The International (14A) Fri 7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:35-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 6-8:45
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:30-7:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:10
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:20-8:30
The Reader (14A) Fri-Sun 6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:20
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 6:30-9:15 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:30-9:15 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:50
Taken (14A) Fri 7:30-10:30 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:20-7:30-10:30 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10

FIRST MARKHAM PLACE
3275 Hwy 7 E., 905-474-5101

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 4:10-6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:30
Fired Up (PG) Fri 5:10-7:50-10:10 Sat-Sun 2:30-5:10-7:50-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30-10
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 4:50-7:30-10 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:50-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:55-9:40
The International (14A) Fri 4:20-7:9:50 Sat-Sun 1:40-4:20-7:9:50 Mon-Thu 7-9:35
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 4:30-7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 4-6:20-9 Sat-Sun 1:20-4-6:20-9 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:15
Push (14A) Fri 4:40-7:20-9:55 Sat-Sun 2-4:40-7:20-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:45
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 3:50-6:30-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:25
Taken (14A) Fri 5-7:40-10:05 Sat-Sun 2:20-5-7:40-10:05 Mon-Thu 7:25-9:55

INTERCHANGE 30
30 Interchange Way, 905-760-1911

Australia (PG) Fri 2:35-6-9:30 Sat-Sun 11:05-2:35-6-9:30 Mon-Wed 6-9:30 Thu 6
Bedtime Stories (G) Fri 1:35-4:10-6:35-9:05 Sat-Sun 11:15-1:35-4:10-6:35-9:05 Mon-Wed 4:10-6:35-9:05 Thu 4:10-6:35
Bolt (PG) Digital Fri 2:20-4:40-7:10-9:25 Digital Sat-Sun 12-2:20-4:40-7:10-9:25 Digital Mon-Wed 4:40-7:10-9:25 Digital Thu 4:40-7:10
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (14A) Fri 2:50-5:05-7:35-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:25-2:50-5:05-7:35-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:05-7:35-9:50
Coraline 3D (PG) Digital Fri 2-4:30-7-9:30 Digital Sat-Sun 11:30-2-4:30-7-9:30 Digital Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30
Doubt (PG) Fri 2:35-5:15-8-10:40 Sat 11:55-2:35-5:15-8-10:40 Sun 11:55-2:35-5:15-8-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:15-8-10:20
Fired Up (PG) Fri 2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Sat 11-12:15-1:15-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Sun 11-12:15-1:15-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:15-9:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 5-6-7:30-8:15-9:45-10:25
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 1:30-2-3-4-4:30-5:45-6:45-7:30-8:15-9:15-10-10:45 Sat 11-12:30-1:30-2-3-4-4:30-5:45-6:45-7:30-8:15-9:15-10-10:45 Sun 11-12:30-1:30-2-3-4-4:30-5:45-6:45-7:30-8:15-9:15-10-10:30 Mon-Thu 4-4:30-5:45-6:45-7:30-8:15-9:15-10-10:30
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri 2:05-4:45-7:50-10:30 Sat-Sun 11:10-2:05-4:45-7:50-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:50-10:30
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Fri 2:15-4:55-7:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 11:30-2:15-4:55-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:20-9:50
Milk (14A) Fri 1:40-4:25-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 10:55-1:40-4:25-7:20-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:20-10:10
Notorious (18A) Fri 2:40-5:25-8:10 Sat-Sun 11:15-2:40-5:25-8:10 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:10
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 2:15-3-4:45-5:30-7:15-8:15-9:40-10:30 Sat-Sun 11:45-12:45-2:15-3-4:45-5:30-7:15-8:15-9:40-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:45-5:30-7:15-8:15-9:40-10:30
Quantum of Solace (PG) Fri 2:30-4:55-7:40-10:05 Sat-Sun 12-2:30-4:55-7:40-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:40-10:05
Rachel Getting Married (14A) Fri 1:55-4:55-7:55-10:40 Sat 11:10-1:55-4:55-7:55-10:40 Sun 11:10-1:55-4:55-7:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:55-7:40-10:25
The Reader (14A) Fri 1:45-4:25-7:15-10 Sat-Sun 11-1:45-4:25-7:15-10 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:15-10
Seven Pounds (14A) Fri 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:25 Sat-Sun 11:05-1:50-4:40-7:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:40-10:25
Taken (14A) Fri 2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Sat 11:45-1-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Sun 11:45-1-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:10-9:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 5-6-7:30-8:10-9:45-10:20
The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri 2:45-5:10-7:25-9:35 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:10-7:25-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:25-9:35
Transporter 3 (14A) Fri 2:25-4:50-7:25-9:55 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:25-4:50-7:25-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:25-9:55
Valkyrie (PG) Fri 2:05-4:50-7:35-10:35 Sat 11:15-2:05-4:50-7:35-10:35 Sun 11:15-2:05-4:50-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:35-10:20
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (14A) Fri 2:50-5:05-7:20-9:35 Sat-Sun 12:20-2:50-5:05-7:20-9:35 Mon-Thu 5:05-7:20-9:35
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 2:20-5:7:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:20-5-7:45-10:15 Mon-Thu 5-7:45-10:15
Yes Man (PG) Fri 1:35-4:10-6:35-9 Sat-Sun 11:05-1:35-4:10-6:35-9 Mon-Wed 4:10-6:35-9 Thu 4:10-6:35

PROMENADE MALL
1 Promenade Circle, 416-494-9371

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7-9:25 Mon 4:20-7-9:25 Tue-Thu 1:20-4:20-7-9:25 Mon 1
Coraline (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:30-8:50
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 7:45
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:50-6:40-9:20
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:20-5:30
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4-6:45-9:15
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:10

SILVERCITY NEWMARKET
18151 Yonge St., 905-953-2792

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 4:35-7:25-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:35-7:25-10:10 Mon 7:25-10:10 Tue 4:35-7:25-10:10 Wed-Thu 7:25-10:10
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri 4:15-7:45-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:15-7:45-10:15 Mon 7:45-10:15 Tue 4:15-7:45-10:15 Wed-Thu 7:45-10:15
Fired Up (PG) Fri 4:10-7-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-4:10-7-9:45 Mon 7-9:45 Tue 4:10-7-9:45 Wed-Thu 7-9:45
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 3:35-4:25-6:30-7:35-9:10-9:55 Sat-Sun 12:50-1:45-3:35-4:25-6:30-7:35-9:10-9:55 Mon 6:30-7:35-9:10-9:55 Tue 3:35-4:25-6:30-7:35-9:10-9:55 Wed-Thu 6:30-7:35-9:10-9:55
Gran Torino (14A) Fri 3:45-6:40-9:35 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:45-6:40-9:35 Mon 6:40-9:35 Tue 3:45-6:40-9:35 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:35
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sat 4-7:10-10:30 Sun 12:30-4-7:10-10:30 Mon 7:10-10:30 Tue 4-7:10-10:30 Wed-Thu 7:10-10:10
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 3:30-6:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:30 Mon 6:30 Tue 3:30-6:30 Wed-Thu 6:30
The International (14A) Fri 3:50-6:55-10 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-6:55-10 Mon 6:55-10 Tue 3:50-6:55-10 Wed-Thu 6:55-10
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 5-7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:50-5-7:40-10:20 Mon 7:40-10:20 Tue 5-7:40-

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TALKING LESS FORTUNE
JD Fortune's visit with Virgin Radio

PLANET MAURIE PHOTO

Former INXS frontman JD Fortune talked to Mad Dog & Billie on Virgin Radio about being dropped by INXS and how hes back living out of a truck - Fortune is currently working on new music for his solo project "Death of a Motivational Speaker" – check it out at: myspace.com/fortune448

To view the full interview, visit:
virginradio999.com

Virgin RADIO 99.9 FM

Cineplex | Empire | AMC | Alliance Atlantis | Rainbow Cinemas | Independent

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB. 20 TO THURS., FEB. 26. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

10:20 Wed-Thu 7:40-10:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 3:40-6:35-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:40-6:35-9:30 Mon 6:35-9:30 Tue 3:40-6:35-9:30 Wed-Thu 6:35-9:30
Push (14A) Fri-Sat 4:20-7:15-10:25 Sun 1:15-4:20-7:15-10:25 Mon 7:15-10:25 Tue 4:20-7:15-10:25 Wed-Thu 7:15-10:25
The Reader (14A) Fri 3:55-6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:55-6:50-9:50 Mon 9:50 Tue 3:55-6:50-9:50 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:50
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 4-7:20-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:55-4-7:20-10:15 Mon 7:20-10:15 Tue 4-7:20-10:15 Wed-Thu 7:20-10:15
Taken (14A) Fri 4-6:45-9:25 Sat-Sun 1:40-4-6:45-9:25 Mon 6:45-9:25 Tue 4-6:45-9:25 Wed-Thu 6:45-9:25
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Thu 9
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 4:30-7:30-10:05 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:05 Mon 7:30-10:05 Tue 4:30-7:30-10:05 Wed-Thu 7:30-10:05

SILVERCITY RICHMOND HILL
8771 Yonge St., 905-709-3199

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:10-6:50-9:30
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:30-6:20-9:10 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:20-9:10
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:30-8:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-8:15
Defiance (14A) Fri-Sun 6:40-9:55 Mon 10:15 Tue-Thu 6:40-9:50
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:20-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:20-7-9:25
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:45-7:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:40-10:15
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-4-7:10-10:20 Mon 4-7:10-10:10 Tue-Thu 4-7:10-11:40
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:50 Mon-Thu 3:50
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:45-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:15-10:05
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:40-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:30-9:55
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-3:40-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:30-9
Push (14A) Fri 1:10-4:15-6:55-9:35 Sat 4:15-6:55-9:35 Sun 1:10-4:15-6:55-9:35 Mon 4:15-9:35 Tue-Thu 4:15-6:55-9:35
The Reader (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4:05-7:05-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:05-7:05-10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 3:35-6:45-9:45
Taken (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:35-7:20-9:45 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:20-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1

HALTON

SILVERCITY BURLINGTON 8
1250 Brant St., 416-646-0444

Caesar and Cleopatra (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:15-10:10
Coraline (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:45
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Sun 3:45
Fired Up (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:20 Mon-Thu 7:25-10:20
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:25 Mon-Thu 7:30-10:25
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 9:45
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 1-4-7-10:20 Sat 1-4-7-10 Sun 1-4-7-10:20 Mon 7-10 Tue-Thu 7-10:20
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:45-7:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:45-10:30
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-10 Mon-Thu 7:20-10
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-4:05-7:05-9:50 Mon 9:50 Tue-Thu 7:05-9:50
Push (14A) Fri-Thu 6:45-9:30
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:10-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Taken (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:15 Mon-Thu 7:40-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Uninvited (14A) Fri 1:35-7:35-10:05 Sat 7:35-10:05 Sun 1:35-7:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 7:35-10:05

SILVERCITY OAKVILLE
3531 Wyecroft Road, 905 827-7173

Caesar & Cleopatra - Encore Presentation (STC) Mon 7
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-6:40-9:45 Mon 6:40-9:45 Tue 6:30-9:30 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:45
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:50-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:30-7:40-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:40-10:30
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-4-7:10 Mon-Thu 7-10 Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30
The International (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:40-6:55-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:55-10:20
Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore (STC) Sat 1 Sat 1
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 1-4:30-7:20-9:50 Sat 4:30-7:20-9:50 Sun 1-4:30-7:20-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:50
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:40-7:10-9:40 Mon 9:40 Tue-Thu 7:10-9:40
The Reader (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon-Thu 7-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Mon 6:30-9:30 Tue 6:40-9:45 Wed-Thu 6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Taken (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:50-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:30-10:10
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Sat 4:30-7:30-10:30 Sun 1:30-4:30-7:30-10:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-10:30

SILVERCITY BRAMPTON
50 Great Lakes, 905-789-6797

Billu Barber (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (G) Fri 4:50-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:50-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:50-9
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 3:40-6:45-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:40-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 3:50-6:45-9:30
Coraline 3D (PG) Fri 3:10-6:15-9 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:10-6:15-9 Mon-Thu 3:10-6:10-8:55
Delhi 6 (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (PG) Fri 5-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:15-5-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:10-9:15
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 4:45-7:45-10:30 Sat 1:55-4:45-7:45-10:30 Sun 1:55-4:45-7:45-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:40-10:15
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 3:50-7:05-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 3:20-6:40-9:50
Hotel for Dogs (G) Sat-Sun 12:10
The International (14A) Fri 4:40-7:35-10:45 Sat 1:40-4:40-7:35-10:45 Sun 1:40-4:40-7:35-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15-10:10
Jag Jeondeyan de Mele (in Punjabi) (G) Fri 4:15-6:30-8:50-10:20 Sat-Sun 2-4:15-6:30-8:50-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:15-5-7:30-8:45
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 4-6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1-4-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 4-6:50-9:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 3:20-6:20-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:20-6:20-9:10 Mon-Thu 3:40-6:20-9:10
Push (14A) Fri 4:10-7:10-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:10-7:10-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:10-7:05-10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 3:30-6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:25-3:30-6:40-9:40 Mon-Thu 3:30-6:30-9:40
Taken (14A) Fri 4:30-7:20-10 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:20-10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:20-9:55
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Fri 4:20-7-9:45 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-7-9:45 Mon-Thu 4:20-7-9:45
The Uninvited (14A) Fri 3:45-7:25-10:35 Sat 12:55-3:45-7:25-10:35 Sun 12:55-3:45-7:25-10:05 Mon-Thu 3:45-7:25-10:05

WINSTON CHURCHILL
2081 Winston Park Dr., 905-829-2009

Billu Barber (G) Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-7-10:10
The Class (PG) Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:05-10
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-5-8:45
Delhi 6 (PG) Sub-Titled Fri-Thu 1-4:05-7:20-9:45
Fired Up (PG) Special Engagement Fri 12:30-2:15-3-4:45-5:30-7:15-8-9:45-10:30 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:45-12:30-2:15-3-4:45-5:30-7:15-8-9:45-10:30 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 12:30-2:15-3-4:45-5:30-7:15-8-9:45-10:30
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri-Thu 7-9:50
Gran Torino (14A) Fri 1:35-4:25-7:35-10:20 Sat-Sun 10:55-1:35-4:25-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 1:35-4:25-7:35-10:20
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 12:45-1:30-3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 Sat-Sun 10:30-12:45-1:30-3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:45-1:30-3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30
Inkheart (PG) Fri 1:50-4:20-7:05-9:55 Sat-Sun 11:15-1:50-4:20-7:05-9:55 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:20-7:05-9:55
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Fri-Thu 2-7:25
Milk (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-7:05
My Bloody Valentine 3D (18A) Digital Fri 2:45-5:15-7:45-10:20 Digital Sat-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:20 Digital Mon-Thu 2:45-5:15-7:45-10:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 1:45-2:30-4-4:50-7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 11:30-12:10-1:45-2:30-4-4:50-7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 1:45-2:30-4-4:50-7:10-9:30
Push (14A) Fri 2-4:40-7:35-10:10 Sat-Sun 11:20-2-4:40-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 2-4:40-7:35-10:10
The Reader (14A) Fri 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:25 Sat-Sun 10:50-1:50-4:40-7:40-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:40-10:25
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 12:30-1:45-3:40-4:35-6:50-7:45-9:35-10:35 Sat-Sun 11:05-12:30-1:45-3:40-4:35-6:50-7:45-9:35-10:35 Mon-Thu 12:30-1:45-3:40-4:35-6:50-7:45-9:35-10:35
Taken (14A) Fri 1-2:15-3:15-4:55-5:45-7:15-8:15-9:40-10:35 Sat-Sun 10:40-12-1-2:15-3:15-4:55-5:45-7:15-8:15-9:40-10:35 Mon 1-2:15-3:15-4:55-5:45-8:15-10:35 Tue-Thu 1-2:15-3:15-4:55-5:45-7:15-8:15-9:40-10:35
The Tale of Despereaux (G) Tue-Wed 2:35-4:55
Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail (14A) Special Engagement Fri 2:25-5-7:30-10 Special Engagement Sat-Sun 11:50-2:25-5-7:30-10 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 2:25-5-7:30-10
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri 4:05-10:15 Sat-Sun 11-4:05-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:05-10:15
The Uninvited (14A) Fri 2:35-4:50-7:10-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:20-2:35-4:50-7:10-9:30 Mon 2:35-4:50-7:10-9:30 Tue-Wed 7:10-9:30 Thu 2:35-4:50-7:10-9:30
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 4:45-10:05 Sat-Sun 11:25-4:45-10:05 Mon-Thu 4:45-10:05

DURHAM

AJAX
248 Kingston Rd. E, 905-426-7772

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 7:05-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-4-7:05-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:05-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Coraline (PG) Fri 6:55 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:20-6:55 Mon-Thu 6:55
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 7:35-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:45-4:45-7:35-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:35-10:10
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 6:45-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:40-6:45-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:50
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 6:30 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:30
The International (14A) Fri 7:10-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:10-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:55
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:40
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:55-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30
Push (14A) Fri-Thu 9:35
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 7-10 Sat-Sun 12:40-4:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 7-10 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Taken (14A) Fri 7:20-10:05 Sat-Sun 12:50-4:15-7:20-10:05 Mon-Thu 7:20-10:05
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Thu 9:25

PICKERING 8
1355 Kingston Rd., 416-646-0444

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30
Coraline (PG) Sat-Sun 12:15-3:10 Mon-Thu 5:10
Fired Up (PG) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat-Sun 1-4:10-7:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:15
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri 7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:10-8:45
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 7:10-15 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:50-7:10-15 Mon-Thu 5-8
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri 6:40-9:10 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:20-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:10
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri 7:10-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:10-3:40-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:30-7:55
Push (14A) Fri-Sun 7:20-10 Mon-Thu 8:20
Taken (14A) Fri 7:30-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7:30-9:50 Mon-Thu 6-8:40

WHITBY 24
75 Consumers Dr., 905-665-7210

Bride Wars (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-2:45-5:05-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:05-7:15-9:30
Changeling (14A) Tue-Wed 4-7-9:50
Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Special Engagement Fri 12:30-2-3-4:30-5:30-7-8-9:30-10:30 Special Engagement Sat 11:25-12:30-2-3-4:30-5:30-7-8-9:30-10:30 Special Engagement Sun 11:25-12:30-2-3-4:30-5:30-7-8-9:30-10:25 Mon-Thu 2-3-4:30-5:30-7-8-9:30-10:25
Coraline 3D (PG) Digital Fri-Sun 12:30-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15 Digital Mon-Thu 3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Sat 12-3:35-7:10:30 Sun-Thu 1:45-5:15-8:30
Fired Up (PG) Special Engagement Fri 12:30-1:30-2:45-3:45-5-6-7:15-8:15-9:30-10:30 Special Engagement Sat 11:15-12:30-1:30-2:45-3:45-5-6-7:15-8:15-9:30-10:30 Special Engagement Sun 11:15-12:30-1:30-2:45-3:45-5-6-7:15-8:15-9:30 Special Engagement Mon-Thu 2:45-3:45-5-6-7:15-8:15-9:30
Friday the 13th (18A) Special Engagement Fri 1-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Special Engagement Sat 11:45-1-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Special Engagement Sun 11:45-1-2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 2:30-3:30-5-6-7:30-8:30-9:45
Gran Torino (14A) Fri 2:15-4:50-7:25-10 Sat-Sun 11:45-2:15-4:50-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:50-7:25-10
He's Just Not That Into You (14A) Fri 1:50-4:45-7:35-10:25 Sat-Sun 11-1:50-4:45-7:35-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:45-7:35-10:25
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri 2:15-4:45-7:05-9:20 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:15-4:45-7:05-9:20 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:45-7:05-9:20
Inkheart (PG) Fri 1:45-4:10 Sat-Sun 11:20-1:45-4:10 Mon-Thu 1:45-4:10
The International (14A) Special Engagement Fri 1:15-2-4:15-5-7:15-8-10-10:45 Special Engagement Sat 11-1:15-2-4:15-5-7:15-8-10-10:45 Special Engagement Sun 11-1:15-2-4:15-5-7:15-8-10 Mon-Thu 2-4:15-5-7:15-8-10
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3-5:15-7:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 3-5:15-7:30-9:45
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:30-4:50-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 2:30-4:50-7:10-9:20
Push (14A) Fri 1:40-4:30-7:20-10 Sat-Sun 11:05-1:40-4:30-7:20-10 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-10
The Reader (14A) Fri 2:15-4:50-7:35-10:20 Sat-Sun 11:35-2:15-4:50-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:50-7:35-10:20
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 1:45-4:20-7:10-10 Sat-Sun 11:05-1:45-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:10-10
Taken (14A) Fri 12:45-1:45-3-4-5:15-6:15-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Sat 11:20-12:45-1:45-3-4-5:15-6:15-7:30-8:30-9:45-10:45 Sun 11:20-12:45-1:45-3-4-5:15-6:15-7:30-8:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 1:45-3-4-5:15-6:15-7:30-8:30-9:45
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (18A) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:10-7:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:10-7:30-9:45
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:25
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 2-4:30-7:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 11:30-2-4:30-7:20-9:50 Mon 2-4:30-7:20-9:50 Thu 2-4:30-7:20-9:50

Must be an Ontario resident over 19 years of age. Selected entrants must consent to urine test to confirm non-smoking. Skill-testing question required.

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metro Do it daily.

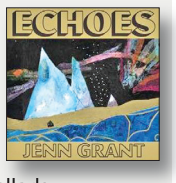
The bestselling albums at Amazon.ca
1. Raising Sand, Robert Plant & Alison Krauss, left; **2.** It's Not Me, It's You, Lily Allen; **3.** Viva La Vida, Coldplay; **4.** We Sing. We Dance. We Steal Thin, Jason Mraz; **5.** 19, Adele. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Metro recommends

• **LILY ALLEN, IT'S NOT ME, IT'S YOU:** A clever blend of Allen's sassy musings and confessional lyrics over breezy electro-pop. This album is full of cheeky charm.

• **JENN GRANT, ECHOES:** This Canadian songstress mixes her beautiful voice with gentle folk rock and orchestral ballads.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

TOP 10
MOBILE DOWNLOADS
1 Poker Face Lady Gaga
2 Live Your Life T.I. ft. Rihanna
3 Heartless Kanye West
4 Sex On Fire Kings Of Leon
5 Beautiful Akon
6 Single Ladies Beyoncé
7 Love Story Taylor Swift
8 Bottle Cap Pussycat Dolls
9 Nasty Girl Ludacris
10 Circus Britney Spears
rogers.com/musicstore
ROGERS

The Goddess of winter

Emm Gryner's latest disc draws on uniquely Canadian seasonal themes

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

Once upon a time, Emm Gryner didn't have to deal with winter.

The Sarnia, Ont.,-born singer/songwriter's 13-year career has seen her take up residence in locales like New York and sunny Los Angeles where the bitter ice and snow don't quite fall like in her native Ontario.

But given the choice, Gryner would sooner remain stationed in the small town outside Stratford, Ont., she now calls home instead of such over-hyped havens of musical bustle.

"I like being able to have this small town as a base," she says. "I'd be hesitant to leave that or be on the road all the time or trade it for something a little bit bigger."

Trading it would necessitate swapping those seasonal aspects she's become so accustomed to. "It really defines us as Canadians," she says, "the fact that we spend six months of our lives in this kind of a climate." And on her eleventh studio album Goddess, it's that motif of winter that seems to underlie the often-bombastic blizzard of sounds on the record.

ILIA HORSBURGH PHOTO

Emm Gryner says many of the songs on her new album Goddess are very personal.

While Gryner didn't really intend Goddess to be a "winter" album, she acknowledges the theme's apparent recurrence and says many of the songs were written amid the wind and snow marking the last few months. The record does, at least, reflect winter's bleak, dejected reputation. "I just kind of felt like doing something a little more minor, with a few more minor keys, and a bit meatier," she says. Further, many of Goddess' songs are very personal, says Gryner, and the album divulges some of the sadder experiences she encountered when coming to grips with her life. "It's a really chilling risk to take to step out into the cold and kind of reveal yourself."

It's also risky to attempt creating any record completely by yourself. But because of the album's introspective nature, Gryner opted to self-produce all components of Goddess.

"It's a really chilling risk to take to step out into the cold and kind of reveal yourself."
Emm Gryner

"I always enjoy records that the artist has produced because you know exactly that that's the way they wanted to communicate the songs," she says. "Because I recorded it and I produced it, it retains a little bit of that intimate 'I did this at my house' kind of vibe."

But Gryner doesn't plan to abandon the studio. Later this year, she will impressively release a second album of new material, this one recorded in Los Angeles, a "sunny, happy major key album" that is, per Gryner, "Completely the opposite of Goddess."

"I keep writing so much. For myself, I need to put things out or else I don't really move forward as a creative person."

Career Finder

THE NORTH WEST COMPANY

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The North West Company is a leading retailer of food and everyday products and services to rural communities and urban neighborhoods in Canada, Alaska, the South Pacific and the Caribbean. North West operates 222 stores under the trading names Northern, NorthMart, Giant Tiger, AC Value Center and Cost-U-Less and has annualized sales of approximately Cdn. $1.3 billion.

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The top pop albums, according to Billboard Magazine
1. Fearless, Taylor Swift; **2.** Raising Sand, Robert Plant and Alison Krauss; **3.** Testimony: Vol. 2, Love and Politics, India.Arie; **4.** The Fray, The Fray; **5.** It's Not Me, It's You, Lily Allen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oscar trims best songs

SoundCheck

Alan Cross
alan@ongoinghistory.com

The 81st Annual Academy Awards

Awards show season reaches its peak Sunday night with the 81st Academy Awards ceremony where Oscars aplenty will be handed out by and to some of the most self-important pieces of puffery on the planet. The Oscars lost me years ago when host Whoopi Goldberg smugly told the audience, "Don't we do good work?"

Naturally, the telecast is scheduled to run three-and-a-half hours (Optimistic? Or delusional?), but will most likely stretch much longer, which means diehards on eastern time won't get to bed until it's way too late.

This, despite the producers' annual vow to shorten things up. Winners are given the hook after 45 seconds. The gawdawful interpretive dance numbers that no one liked were cut. The second hour is no longer about categories that only industry wonks care about. And they've cut the time given to the performances by nominees for best original song.

Eminem won the Oscar for Lose Yourself in 2002. GETTY IMAGES

Normally, this wouldn't be just a bad thing — but not this year. I'll get back to that in a second.

Best original song is one of the oldest awards, dating back to 1934 when The Continental scooped a trophy for its appearance in The Gay Divorcee. From that moment, the Academy has had a (mostly) tin ear for picking good songs. There's been a bias towards Disney ditties and syrupy love songs — think My Heart Will Go On from Titanic (1997). Occasionally they got it right. Think Eminem and Lose Yourself in 2002, and Bruce Springsteen for Streets of Philadelphia in 1993.

The rest of the list consists of song that are, in my opinion, twee, lightweight, dated and otherwise ignominious. (Last Dance from Thank God It's Friday, anyone? Look it up!) This year, there are just three best original song nominees. But in the interests of saving time, they're going to be condensed into a medley with each getting just 65 seconds. Peter Gabriel, the co-writer of Down to Earth from Wall-E will have none of this, so he's refusing to perform. Meanwhile, the other two songs are from Slumdog Millionaire, one of which is co-written by rapper M.I.A. She probably won't be there, either, because she became a mother last week, just a couple of days after performing at the Grammys. Apparently, organizers are so desperate for her to perform that they've offered her a bed so she can sing lying down. Even I'd stay up for that.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Duffy tops BRIT awards

AWARDS Soul singer Duffy scooped top prizes for best album, best British female solo artist and best breakthrough act at the Brit Awards.

Wednesday's triple-play caps a great year for the Welsh songstress, whose Rockferry album registered 4.5 million in international sales in 2008. Coldplay — who along with the sultry-voiced blonde received four nominations — were given the cold shoulder.

Duffy beat a crowded field including singer-rapper Estelle, Grammy-award winning soul singer Adele, and grime-pop Sri Lankan refugee M.I.A. to take the best female solo award.

By the time she took home her third prize of the evening, she was beginning to choke up.

"I'm not going to lie to you, it's really not (expletive) easy," she said. "It's hard. It's really hard."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On TV

- The BRIT Awards air Feb. 26 at 9 p.m. on MuchMusic.

McPhee's singer role

American Idol runner-up-turned-actress Katharine McPhee is set to play a singer. McPhee, who costarred in The House Bunny, has been tapped for a visit to CSI: NY, according to The Hollywood Reporter. TVGUIDE.COM

Television

CTV PHOTO

etalk hosts Ben Mulroney, left, and Tanya Kim will cover the 81st Annual Academy Awards this Sunday.

Covering the red carpet

Mulroney talks Oscar jitters and his most embarrassing interview

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada

What's one of the stupidest things Ben Mulroney has ever done on the red carpet?

It was at last year's Oscars with Julian Schnabel, director of The Diving Bell and the Butterfly.

"I don't know how I forgot or why I forgot, but I forgot to say hello and ask the name of his wife," said the affable television host.

American artist and director Schnabel would not entertain any of Mulroney's questions until he recognized his mistake.

"It felt like forever, it might have been 20 seconds, but it felt like a very long time while he just stood there and stared at me," he said with a sheepish chuckle, recalling the awkward moment.

The 81st Annual Academy Awards

The Academy Awards red carpet event, the biggest and most widely televised of all, is chock full of opportunities for even the coolest cats in front of the camera to make mistakes.

But that's one of the things Mulroney, who will again be CTV's frontman at the 81st annual event Sunday, says he likes best about going live.

"I think you should show off that carpet in all of its crazy glory," he said.

After six years as Canada's red carpet guy, Mulroney said he still gets nervous but tries not to let his nerves get in the way of the excitement.

"I approach the red carpet as a fan more than anything," he said. "I'm not a film expert but I am a lover of the movies."

Once the actors start rolling in, Mulroney said, nerves give way to adrenaline and it's a bit of a whirlwind. He often doesn't remember who he's talked to until after the event because he's so focused on trying to ask the right questions including, of course, 'Who are you wearing?'

Add in the behind-the-scenes chaos with publicists yanking the actors from one interview to the next and producers shouting commands in his ear and it becomes a bit of a circus.

There are a lot of snap decisions to be made and basically you just have to hope for the best, he said.

"Sometimes it doesn't come off as pretty but I think that the people at home appreciate the live, anything-goes nature of that red carpet," he said.

Mulroney will be joined by etalk colleagues Tanya Kim and Elaine (Lainey) Lui who will commentate on the red carpet happenings from a balcony in front of Hollywood's Kodak Theatre.

Oscar watch

• Coverage of the red carpet will begin Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. ET on CTV. The 81st Annual Academy Awards begins at 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

TO		Vu	SC		C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
2/20/09	primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Feast Greece	Feast Greece	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Heartbeat "Bully Boys"		Allan Gregg	Film 101	Agenda-Paikin
		211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It	(9:01) Dollhouse (N)		NUMB3RS (HDTV)		News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
		210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour
		214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Mantracker		Survivorman		Crusoe (HDTV)		News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		Flashpoint (HDTV)		Raising the Bar (N)		News (N)
		218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	True Hollywood Story		Friday Night Lights (N)		20/20		News (N)
		-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		Flashpoint (HDTV)		NUMB3RS (HDTV)		News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It	Friday Night Lights (N)		Dateline NBC		News (N)
		-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap		Supernanny (N)		20/20		News (N)
		219	346	20	ACH-B	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Sarah Connor Chronicles		Supernanny (N)		Whistler "Fallen" (DVS)		News (N)
		-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles		(9:01) Dollhouse (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
		-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Summer Wine	*Rain Man* ★★★★ (1988, Comedy-Drama) Dustin Hoffman, Tom Cruise.					Wash. Week	Business Rpt.
	news	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Cooper 360
	sports	405	417	22	net	World Sport	College Hockey Boston College at New Hampshire. (Live)					Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
		400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at New York Knicks. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	family	551	542	25	YTV	*Spice World* ★ (1997, Musical Comedy) The Spice Girls.				Falcon Beach		Ghost	Mystery Hnt.	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	*Superman III* ★★ (1983, Science Fiction), Richard Pryor			
		556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	*Around the World in 80 Days* ★★ (2004)			(9:03) *My Dog Skip* ★★★ (2000, Drama)		(10:39) *Johnny Tsunami*		
	cable variety	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Fade Out"		CSI: Miami "Rush"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Burned"		Criminal Minds
		575	583	38	CMT	Cross Canada Countdown				Ed		*Blessings* ★★ (2003, Drama), Liam Waite		
		616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's Inquest		Testees	Kenny-Spenny	Webdreams	Sin Cities	Wife Swap
		294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Sahara* ★★ (2005, Adventure) Matthew McConaughey, Steve Zahn.					Seinfeld	Family Guy
		581	566	52	MTV	Play'd	City Live After	Made Hip hop dancer.		The Real World		Play'd	The City	City Live After
		603	561	56	FOOD	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Kylie Kwong	Gourmets	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Ramsay Kitchn
		300	601	301	M1	(6) *Even Money* (2006)		Sanctuary "Nubbins"		*Harold & Kumar Escape Guantanamo*			(10:45) *21* ★★ (2008)	

SATURDAY

TO		Vu	SC		C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
2/21/09	primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Hippo: Africa's River Beast		*Malcolm X* ★★★ (1992, Biography) Denzel Washington, Angela Bassett, Albert Hall.						
		211	331	3	GTV	Currents: Breaking Ranks		Masterminds	Masterminds	Doc "Welcome to NY"		Doc "Safety First"		News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Na Luzie		Svitohliad	Objektyv	Russian Waves		The "M" Word		MADtv
		210	302	6	CBC	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Toronto Maple Leafs. (HDTV) (Live)						NHL Hockey: Flames at Oilers		
		214	344	7	CITY	Without a Trace		Less-Kind	Kaya	*Murder 19C: Detective Murdoch Mysteries*				News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	W-FIVE (N)		Without a Trace (HDTV)		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order "Sweetie"		News (N)
		218	345	11	E!	Chef School	E News	*Obituary* (2006, Suspense) Josie Bissett.				Show Yours	G-Spot	News (N)
		-	387	16	CBS	Paid Program	Paid Program	Without a Trace (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		48 Hours Mystery (N)		News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	Paid Program	Paid Program	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order "Sweetie"		News (N)
		-	386	18	ABC	Paid Program	Bring Wall St	Scrubs	*Hitch* ★★★ (2005, Romance-Comedy) (HDTV) Will Smith, Eva Mendes.					News
		219	346	20	ACH-B	The Road to Avonlea		*High Adventure* (2001, Action) Thomas Ian Griffith.				Comedy Now	Awards	News (N)
		-	-	28	FOX	Kitchen World	Paid Program	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Spike Feresten
		-	388	61	PBS	All Creatures Great and Small		Ballykissangel		Return of Sherlock Holmes		Poirot		Masterpiece
	news	500	500	33	CNN	Newsroom		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live		D.L. Hughley Breaks the News		Newsroom
	sports	405	417	22	net	English Premier League Soccer Arsenal vs. Sunderland.				Ultimate Fighting Championship 95: Sanchez vs. Stevenson				
		400	400	30	TSN	NASCAR Racing Nationwide Series -- Stater Bros. 300. (HDTV) (Live)						Curling: Scotties Tournament of Hearts		
	family	551	542	25	YTV	Team Galaxy	Team Galaxy	Zixx Level	Storm Hawks	Naruto	Bleach	Ghost	Ghost	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	*Titan A.E.* ★★★ (2000, Science Fiction), Drew Barrymore				Futurama	Robot Chicken	Clone High	Gay Couple	Moral Orel
		556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	*Strange Brew* ★★ (1983, Comedy)			*Innerspace* (1987, Comedy)	
	cable variety	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
		575	583	38	CMT	All About	All About	Karaoke Star		Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Darius Rucker	The Wreckers	Grand Opry
		616	521	39	SHO	Mutant X		*The Party Never Stops* (2007, Drama) Sara Paxton.				*Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy*		
		294	529	47	TBS	Welcome to	Welcome to	*Blue Streak* ★ (1999, Comedy) Martin Lawrence.				*Double Team* ★ (1997, Adventure)		
		581	566	52	MTV	MTV Live	After	Made Hip hop dancer.		MTV News	Play'd	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs
		603	561	56	FOOD	Family	Glutton	Top Chef (Part 1 of 2) Final challenges.			Good Eats	Hell's Kitchen		The F Word
		300	601	301	M1	*Golden Comp.*	*Unstable Fables: Tortoise vs. Hare* (2008)			*The Visitor* ★★★ (2007, Drama) Richard Jenkins.				*Pete Seeger*

SUNDAY

TO		Vu	SC		C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
2/22/09	primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Megabridges "Greece"		The End of Suburbia		*Escape From Suburbia* (2007)			(10:35) The View From Here	
		211	331	3	GTV	The Barbara Walters Special		The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy	American Dad	The Unit "Sudden Flight"		News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Without a Trace		According-Jim	Young Rebels		Noi Oggi	Metropia	Metropia	Corpo E Alma
		210	302	6	CBC	Heartland (HDTV) (DVS)		*Marple: A Pocket Full of Rye* (2009, Mystery)				CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Who Do-Think
		214	344	7	CITY	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Friends	Friends	Rock of Love Bus		Crusoe		News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	The Amazing Race 14		Oscars Red	The 81st Annual Academy Awards (HDTV) Achievements in film. (Live)					
		218	345	11	E!	Red Carpet-Awards		*L.A. Confidential* ★★★★ (1997, Crime Drama) Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe, Guy Pearce.						News (N)
		-	387	16	CBS	60 Minutes		The Amazing Race 14		Cold Case "Glory Days"		The Unit "Sudden Flight"		News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	Dateline NBC				100 Most Outrageous Moments 2 (N)				News (N)
		-	386	18	ABC	The Barbara Walters Special		Oscars Red	The 81st Annual Academy Awards (HDTV) Achievements in film. (Live)					
		219	346	20	ACH-B	(6:30) etalk at the Oscars		To Be Announced		Cold Case "Glory Days"		Medium		News
		-	-	28	FOX	(5) NASCAR Racing Sprint Cup -- Auto Club 500. (HDTV) (Live)						Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cold Case
		-	388	61	PBS	The Lawrence Welk Show		Nature (HDTV) (DVS)		Masterpiece Classic (N) (DVS)			Independent Lens (HDTV)	
	news	500	500	33	CNN	Hollywood Gold Rush		State of the Union		Larry King Live		Newsroom		D.L. Hughley
	sports	405	417	22	net	World Combat	Hockeycentral	NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at New York Rangers. (HDTV) (Live)					Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Con.
		400	400	30	TSN	SportsCentre	Boxing	Boxing Andre Berto vs. Luis Collazo.			Curling 2009 Scotties Tournament of Hearts -- Draw 5.			
	family	551	542	25	YTV	*Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties*		Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	The Next Star		Adrenaline Proj	Zixx Level	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	Totally Spies	Totally Spies	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Life's a Zoo	Life's a Zoo	Gay Couple
		556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	*Oh, God!* ★★★ (1977, Comedy), Teri Garr			*Dancer, Texas* (1998)	
	cable variety	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Cop Killer"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos
		575	583	38	CMT	Cross Canada Countdown		Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Coyote Ugly	Coyote Ugly	Three Chords	Three Chords	Cheerleader
		616	521	39	SHO	The Guard (HDTV)		*A Life Interrupted* (2007, Docudrama) Lea Thompson.				Damages (N)		The Guard
		294	529	47	TBS	(6) *Blue Streak* (1999)		*A Thin Line Between Love and Hate* ★★ (1996)				*A Thin Line Between Love and Hate* ★★		
		581	566	52	MTV	Made Hip hop dancer.		Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	After
		603	561	56	FOOD	Italian Escape	Exotic	Challenge		Iron Chef America		The Next Food Network Star		The Heat
		300	601	301	M1	(6:30) *Transformers* ★★★ (2007, Action)				*Dreamgirls* ★★★ (2006, Musical) Jamie Foxx.				Dexter

Entertainment in brief

TV In advance of the 81st annual Academy Awards on Sunday, check out:

• CTV's coverage, which begins in the afternoon with a new episode of In Fashion devoted to trends you may see on this year's red carpet.

• etalk's Tanya Kim will host Runway to the Red Carpet later in the afternoon, offering a look at past Oscar fashion successes and faux pas.

It will be followed by etalk Picks the Winners, with experts weighing-in on who should win this year.

Note: Portions of CTV's coverage will also air on Star and FashionTelevision.

METRO NEWS SERVICE

the hot ticket

by Enza Anderson

Enza brings Metro readers the weekly scoop on Toronto's hottest parties and events.

If you would you like your event featured in the hot ticket, email enza.supermodel.anderson@gmail.com.

NBS board member Cindy Thorburn.

Gala guests Ojus and Roberta Ajmera.

From left, ballet students Angelica Villalon, Esabelle Chen, and Nicole Meredith.

BALLET STUDENTS put aside their plies and attitudes for a night of western-style dancing at the National Ballet School's annual Grand Pas de Deux gala at the Fairmount Royal York. In the end, the My Funky Valentine-themed fundraiser had philanthropists and honoured guests working the Conga line.

LEFT: So You Think You Can Dance Canada judge Tré Armstrong.

NBS dance choreographers Olivia Zivot, left, and Evelina Ganina.

Gala guest Jillian Farrow.

NBS dancers, from left, Antonella Martinelli, Alexandra MacDonald and Marissa Parzei.

Dirty Dancing coming to a close

David Mirvish announced Sunday that Dirty Dancing: The Classic Story on Stage will play its 582nd and final performance at the Royal Alexandra Theatre on Sunday, March 29. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Going Out

Mix of Six

HOT & HAPPENING WEEKEND EVENTS AROUND THE CITY
For more great events around the city, visit: **metronews.ca/entertainment**

National Homes Show

When: Friday through Sunday, March 1
Where: Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place

Home and Garden Television's Justin and Colin highlight North America's biggest home and garden show. Tickets: $8 to $15. Nationalhomeshow.com

Bloor-Yorkville IceFest 2009

When: Through Sunday
Where: Various places in Yorkville

The ritzy neighbourhood's fourth-annual event features an ice sculpture exhibit, ice carving demonstrations and more. Cost: $20 for kickoff, other events free Bloor-yorkville.com

The Oscars at the Bloor

When: Sunday, 7 p.m.
Where: Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor St. W.

Watch the big-screen awards show on a big-screen at the Bloor Cinema. Cost: free for members, $3 for a membership. Bloorcinema.com

The Royal Conservatory Orchestra and Alexander Seredenko

When: Friday, 8 p.m.
Where: Toronto Centre for the Arts, 5040 Yonge St.

One of Canada's own, the talented 21-year-old pianist plays with Toronto's classical orchestra. Cost: $10 to $20. 416-872-1111

Samantha Ronson

When: Saturday, 10 p.m.
Where: This is London, 364 Richmond St. W.

Lindsay Lohan's DJ girlfriend hits the decks inside the vintage chic hotspot. Will Lohan will be on hand for the show? Thisislondonclub.com.

Maple Leafs vs. Canucks

When: Saturday, 7 p.m.
Where: Air Canada Centre, 40 Bay St.

The Western Conference's ninth-place Vancouver comes to town to play our Eastern Conference 11th-place NHLers. Cost: $80 to $1,800. Contact: 416-815-5500.

From rock 'n' roll to wife

Erica Peck is only 22 years old and for the past two years, she's been starring as Scaramouche in the hit musical We Will Rock You.

That would seem like achievement enough for a young woman, but she's going to leave the Queen musical on March 8 and tackle something completely different, playing a young wife in strife-torn 1970s Northern Ireland, fighting to hold on to her man and her beliefs in The Boys in the Photograph.

This new show is by We Will Rock You's writer/director Ben Elton and Andrew Lloyd Webber, a rewritten version of their 2000 London musical The Beautiful Game.

It's opening at the Manitoba Theatre Centre in April, with a fair bit of Mirvish money behind it, and even though no Toronto date has been set, there's a good chance it will wind up here in the not too distant future.

That's a lot for one woman to have on her plate at an age when most of her peers are still in theatre school. How does she handle it? Judging from a recent interview, a combination of peppermint tea and positive thinking.

"I still wake up some days and can't believe what I'm doing! I haven't been bored for a second, honestly, and I don't want it to ever end."

It's been quite a crazy journey for the woman who was plucked out of her second year at Sheridan College with nothing more substantial under her belt than two high school musicals and a summer at Canada's Wonderland.

"You gotta love those people at the Mirvish office," she giggles gratefully. "They really took a chance on me. They were the best. And so was Ben."

She's talking about Elton, who has become Peck's mentor.

"He's been the most important one in building my confidence, my self-esteem, everything," she says.

Still, a quick look at her life would indicate that it's never really been that tough going for the cheerful Peck.

She was born in London, Ont., on Aug. 15, 1986. Her parents moved to Port Credit and, before too long, Peck had decided music would be her life. But it wasn't due to any parental push.

"My parents were so not stage parents," she laughs. "They were both social workers, but they were very much about letting me find my passion."

Her folks played B.B. King to her and she played Éponine in her school's production of Les Misérables.

"(But) I've always been a big rock 'n' roller," she sighs. "I do love my Heart."

So when she entered the musical theatre program at Sheridan, it wasn't exactly a match made in heaven.

She praises some of "the great teachers I had," but ultimately felt "the program was too conservative and formal and not for me."

So, even though she wasn't supposed to be auditioning while in her second year, she snuck out to the open call for We Will Rock You and ended up landing the part.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

More rockin'

- David Mirvish has announced that the musical We Will Rock You will extend its run at the Panasonic Theatre through May 3.

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Erica Peck, Scaramouche in We Will Rock You, will join the cast of Ben Elton and Andrew Lloyd Webber's new show.

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Kenya Hunt

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I unjunked my body!

Lina works in the fitness industry in Ottawa and recently came across an article on detoxing. Here is her story;

"I was having a hard time losing those stubborn extra pounds and I was tired a lot, which showed in my face. So when I came across a Biofirm story in the local newspaper, it made me curious.

It definitely made sense to me that we get tired and bloated from too many toxins in our foods and from our environment. But I didn't know that it made us gain weight! So I purchased a box of Biofirm and took the recommended 6 tablets a day for a month with lots of water and high-fibre foods. I was determined to unjunk my body!"

I lost 11 pounds on the detox!

"In the first 4 weeks I lost 7 pounds. I definitely felt lighter and my skin was looking great – I was glowing! I had read that it could be unpleasant to take Biofirm but I actually enjoyed it, especially because you are still able to do your daily duties. You don't have to stay home or do it on the weekends.

After the 30 days detox, I wanted to continue, so I bought another 14 days of tablets. Again, I lost another 4 pounds and my clothes were getting very loose! I was thrilled - and the great part is that I didn't have to exercise vigorously for 6 weeks!!"

– Line B., Ottawa

DETOXING: A GREAT WAY TO START A HEALTHIER LIFE

Everyday, our bodies are exposed to toxins from the air we breathe, the water we drink and especially the processed foods we eat. If our bodies get overburden with toxins, our liver suffers and we start seeing the effect on our health; Our skin is affected, we get tired, we retain water, get headaches, digestion problems, bad breath and find it especially hard to lose weight.

Researchers have now discovered the biological cause of those stubborn pounds; Toxic particles bind water in the bodies' soft tissue and inhibit your metabolism from burning fat efficiently. The Conclusion: To lose weight, you must first cleanse your body!

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Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Oscar time

TV Time to get the Oscar pool going and stock up on popcorn — Hollywood's biggest night is upon us. Other than the usual red carpet fanfare and onstage theatrics, the Academy's promising several surprises during this year's show (does that mean Slumdog will not win best picture?). Airs Sunday night on CTV.

2 Duffy

ARTIST It takes a British R&B sensation to send global darlings Coldplay home empty-handed from an awards night. The 24-year-old Welsh singer topped the Brits — the island's Grammys — Wednesday, winning three awards including the coveted best new album for her 2008 release Rockferry.

3 Religulous

DVD American funny man and rabble rouser Bill Maher collides head-on with all things God in this devilishly entertaining documentary. From the deep American South to Jerusalem, Maher's travels and encounters will make sure you have something talk about around the office water cooler for days.

4 The '80s look

FASHION Shoulder pads are back. So are the Robert Palmer-style second skin dresses, dark lipstick and, yes, acid-wash jeans. Reagan-era chic was big with designers Marc Jacobs, Donna Karan, Alexander Wang, Diane von Furstenberg and others as they unveiled their new collections at New York Fashion Week.

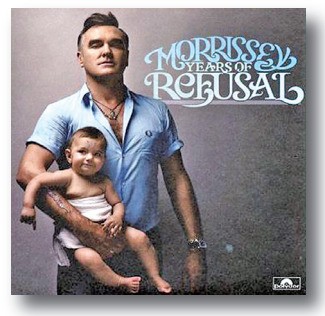
5 The Legend of Sigurd and Gudrun

BOOK More fodder for J.R.R. Tolkien fans. Publishers Houghton Miffin Harcourt announced this week that this thorough reworking of old Norse epics by The Hobbit author will be out this spring.

6 The International

FILM Forget Osama bin Laden. If this taut thriller (starring Clive Owen and Naomi Watts) is to be believed, the root of all evil is ... bankers. If that's not timely, then what is?

7 Years of Refusal: Morrissey



ALBUM The Moz is angry and that's a good thing. In Years of Refusal, the king of mope rock rages and rants against the backdrop of a tightly-honed garage band, giving us probably his most vital album since Vauxhall and I.

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Going Away

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A little-known gem in the South Pacific

New Caledonia boasts both an exotic setting and a French pedigree

DAWN L. ROBERTSON
for Metro Canada

DAWNA L. ROBERTSON/FOR METRO CANADA

PETER HENDRIE/LONELY PLANET IMAGES

Left, a view of the Isle of Pines, New Caledonia. Right, a pirogue — or outrigger canoe — with sail underway near the Isle of Pines.

For years, New Caledonians have used the catch phrase "France in the Pacific" to promote their country to the international tourist market. And it's certainly that, with a mélange of fashionistas and folks clad in the casual, brightly-coloured clothing that reflects an island lifestyle.

There are inspiring landscapes and water that is as intensely turquoise as it is rich with marine wonders. But amidst the exotic setting, the country's capital city, Noumea, emits a distinctly European feel, thanks to its colonial buildings, town square, gardens, markets, designer boutiques, patisseries and sidewalk cafes.

While Aussies, New Zealanders, the Japanese and the French have flocked to this South Pacific paradise for years, no one I knew could offer me any firsthand advice before I journeyed there myself.

In fact, I wasn't exactly certain where it was in the South Pacific. By the time I returned, however, I knew it was in a place that defines natural beauty.

New Caledonia is composed principally of the Isle of Pines, Loyalty Islands and a mainland that's divided into northern and southern provinces. The archipelago is splendidly tucked amid a trio of better-known getaways. Noumea lies about 1,970 kilometres northeast of Sydney, 1,805 kilometres northwest of Auckland and 1,300 kilometres southwest of Nadi, Fiji.

So it's a perfect stop for travellers heading to any of these more prominent destinations.

But for those into diving, there's little need to go elsewhere. The mainland is cocooned in the world's largest lagoon, with water temperatures that range from an inviting 21 to 28 C. The reef can be as close as a couple of kilometres from the coast in some places and over 60 in others.

This magnificent marine environment bursts with fluorescent corals, sea cows, starfish, sea sponges, turtles, sea urchins and even humpback whales. So to call it an aquatic paradise understates the case somewhat.

Upon arriving at Tontouta International on my Aircalin, aircalinusa.com, flight from LAX, I hit the ground running. Even before I checked in at Le

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DAWNA L. ROBERTSON/FOR METRO CANADA

Left, a profile of the remarkable Tjibaou Arts and Cultural Centre in Noumea, in the south province of New Caledonia. Right, a close-up of the buildings.

On the web

- visitnewcaledonia.com
- Iles-loyaute.com
- tourismeprovincenord.nc/US/index.php)
- newcaledoniatourism-south.com

<< Continued from page 38

Meridien Noumea, lemeridien.com/noumea, I took in the Tjibaou Cultural Center, adck.nc.

This move paid off in spades since it provided me with a solid background on New Caledonia's Kanak people and what I'd be exposed to during my adventures.

Housing a collection of art and traditional crafts gathered from throughout New Caledonia and the wider Pacific, this architectural masterpiece showcases the Kanak culture via three "villages" linked by a garden pathway that winds along the footsteps of their mythical First Man, Tea Kanake.

The distinctive Great Houses stylized design reflects traditional housing forms of varying heights and surface treatments; though the centre was also given a deliberately unfinished look as a reminder that Kanak culture is still evolving.

After a healthy dose of local insight, I headed back to Noumea. In 1854, a French naval officer, Tardy de Montravel, was so charmed by the natural port that he laid claim to the site. Since then, it's been fashioned by sailors and missionaries, governed by the French military and claimed as a U.S. Army headquarters during the Second World War.

Nowadays, for handy sightseeing, a small train makes a scenic circuit with stops at key sites between the city centre and the main tourist area of Anse Vata.

Tight on time but determined to explore the southern province's interior landscapes, I opted for a highly recommended Caledonia Tours, caledoniatours@lagoon.nc, excursion to Blue River Park. Our host, Francois Tran, was perhaps the most well-versed guide I've ever encountered.

While I could have rented a car and ventured there on my own, I would have certainly missed so much of the magic that could only be shared by a native in the know.

Both a gentleman and a scholar of all things New Caledonian, Tran shared with us the 22,350-acre forest reserve that's home to a plethora of native plants and wildlife, including the territory's rare and revered cagou birds.

Missing out on the northern province and Loyalty Islands, I did manage a day trip to the Isle of Pines — yet another good move.

This sliver of heaven that measures a mere nine kilometres wide and 18 kilometres long proves once again that good things come in small packages.

Even before my 20-minute Air Caledonie, aircaledonie.nc, flight from Noumea's domestic Magenta Airport landed, it was obvious how this beauty garnered the moniker The Jewel of the Pacific.

Etched with towering Araucaria pines, aquamarine lagoons and powdery white sand beaches, it's stunning in every sense of the word. Here, I finally dove into the warm water world that surrounds this remote destination.

After an island tour, I sailed on a traditional Melanesian pirogue or outrigger, kayaked and snorkelled in a natural swimming pool at Oro Bay. If you're into aquatic bliss like I am, Isle of Pines will put you over the edge.

True to nearly everything in New Caledonia, this was yet another of those dreamy places I never wanted to leave. My only consolation was knowing I could return.

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Strikes keep sun-seekers away from Martinique, Guadeloupe

Thousands of tourists looking for fun in the sun have cancelled vacations to a pair of French Caribbean islands, where violent strikes have left one man dead, piles of smelly uncollected garbage in the streets, and stores looted and burned.

DOMINIQUE CHOMEREAU-LAMOTTE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man rides a bike past a debris left from a burning barricade in the aftermath of protests in Point-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe.

Protesters in Martinique and Guadeloupe have persisted with a work stoppage to demand higher salaries and lower prices, hurting scores of businesses including restaurants, hotels and car rental agencies during the islands' peak winter tourist season, Martinique Tourism Authority chairwoman Madeleine de Grandmaison said.

"Tourism is fragile," she said. "People are not only cancelling this week, but also for all the months of February, March and April. We have a huge deficit of tourists ahead of us."

At least 10,000 tourists have cancelled vacations in Martinique and Guadeloupe, according to the National Travel Agencies organization.

Guadeloupe's strike, waged by residents struggling with soaring living costs, has persisted for almost a month. Martinique's is in its third week. A protester was shot dead late Tuesday on Guadeloupe as youths went on a rampage, looting 15 businesses and burning seven. Twenty-one cars were also torched.

"People are scared," said Laetitia Delaprade, a spokeswoman at Voyages Antillais, a Paris-based travel agency that specializes in French Caribbean vacations. "They do not want to travel to the Antilles now."

Violence has not hit Martinique like it has Guadeloupe, but that has not spared the island from losing precious tourist euros.

Protesters have left papers, beer bottles and other trash throughout the capital, Fort-de-France, causing some to turn up their noses. "All of Fort-de-France is closed and dirty," Grandmaison said. "It is not reasonable to tell cruise ships to come."

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Ford and Flockhart to wed?
Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart could finally be walking down the aisle — or they may have secretly done so already. The New York Post cites sources that say the two filed the paperwork for a marriage license. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Liposuction led to medical mishap for Usher's wife?

HEALTH Usher reportedly had no idea his wife was planning to undergo plastic surgery in Brazil, according to female-first.co.uk.

The website is alleging the singer only discovered Tameka Raymond was having liposuction earlier this month when he received a phone call to say his wife was in an induced coma, according to In Touch Weekly magazine.

Usher rushed to the Sao Rafael Hospital in Sao Paulo, Brazil, after learning Tameka had suffered cardiac and respiratory arrest when she was being anesthetized, it reports.

Tameka was revived with a heart massage from the cardiac arrest in less than a minute and placed in an induced coma before being moved to the intensive care unit. She was later transferred to Sirio-Libanes Hospital — one of the best in Brazil.

After spending 11 days recovering from the incident, Tameka was finally released from hospital on Monday. A spokeswoman for the hospital refused to elaborate on her health, saying: "We do not have any more information about her condition."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Solange's pill scare

PEOPLE Beyoncé's younger sister, Solange Knowles, was admitted to a hospital after suffering from an adverse reaction to Vicks NyQuil pills onboard a flight from New York on Tuesday, intouchweekly.com reports.

The incident unfolded in front of fans' eyes as she posted throughout the trip on her twitter.com page. "I think maybe I'm getting high off it because I'm not sleeping," said Solange. "I didn't know Nyquil could do this to you." After an unsuccessful attempt to sleep, she added, "think I'm certified loosing it."

Soon, the R&B singer did get to close her eyes, but not in the way she expected: She passed out in baggage claim, the website reports. "How'd I end up in the hospital? ... Guess I passed out!" Solange was then hooked up to an IV due to dehydration and low blood pressure. "I'm like still in shock. I've never passed out before."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rihanna's sales up, Brown's down

CAREER Sales of Rihanna's 2007 album, Good Girl Gone Bad, have soared in the wake of her alleged altercation with boyfriend Chris Brown the night before the Grammy Awards, climbing 33 per cent since the incident, according to E! News.

But all the press attention isn't helping Brown, whose latest album, Exclusive, continued to fall down the charts, not even registering in Billboard's top 200.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

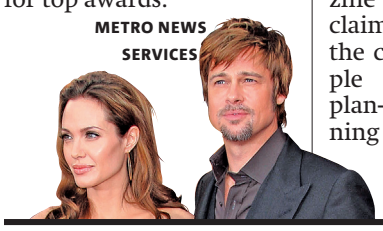
Busy Jolie-Pitt schedule

FAMILY Before heading back to L.A. for the Oscars this Sunday, Brad Pitt took his boys for a little luck-generating fun in Las Vegas. Pitt was spotted at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino with sons Maddox and Pax, according to People magazine.

Meanwhile, Angelina Jolie kept daughters Zahara and Shiloh entertained in New York while she prepared for her next movie, Salt, which will film there.

The family will reunite in California for the Oscars, where both Pitt and Jolie are nominated for top awards.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Ellen and Portia preparing for kid?

PEOPLE Ellen DeGeneres and partner Portia de Rossi will undergo fertility treatment to start their own family, femalefirst.co.uk reports a U.S. tabloid as alleging.

DeGeneres recently revealed they were looking to step away from the spotlight and live the quiet life on a farm, once her U.S. talk show contract ends in 2010, the website adds.

Star magazine claims the couple is planning to have a biological child — and de Rossi will soon begin in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment.

A source tells the publication, "(de Rossi) is prepared to go through it (IVF) 10 times if she has to. Whatever it takes to get pregnant, she'll do it. She's been changing her eating habits. Her goal is to gain a few pounds before they start the IVF process.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Nicollette no man-eater

RELATIONSHIP Nicollette Sheridan is "always looking for a man," female-first.co.uk reports. Although the Desperate Housewives actress — who split from fiancé Michael Bolton last year — wants to find love, she is only interested in men who will treat her well.

She said: "I'm always looking for a man. But please, only princes should talk to me."

Sheridan insists she is nothing like her character Edie Britt in the hit show, and doesn't want potential love interests to confuse her with the man-eater.

She added to People magazine: "I'm totally different from her, and besides, she'll die next season anyway."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

50 Cent tries hand at comedy

CAREER 50 Cent is looking to move into the comedy business, searching out scripts through his production company, according to Contact Music.

The rapper is reportedly eager to team up with Martin Lawrence and Seann William Scott, whom he called "a funny man" in an interview. 50 Cent most recently starred in Righteous Kill with Robert De Niro and Al Pacino.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Wedding bells for Hayden and Rachel?

MARRIAGE Former The O.C. star Rachel Bilson is reportedly set to marry longtime boyfriend Hayden Christensen, though the couple haven't set a date yet. The two were engaged quietly over the holidays, a source told People magazine.

And a spy for Page Six saw the pint-sized actress on an L.A.-bound flight sporting her engagement ring. The eyewitness overheard Bilson tell another passenger, "I'm not married yet, just engaged. I know I look like I'm 15, but I'm actually 27."

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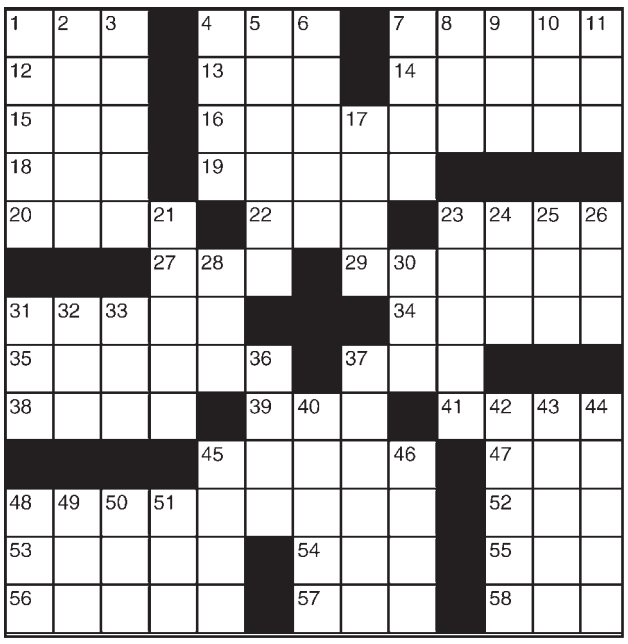

Crossword across

1 Sceptre adornment
4 Spinning meas.
7 First-anniversary gift
12 Sheepish remark?
13 Will Smith biopic
14 Impressive setup
15 Recede
16 Human-lion dragon hybrid
18 Copper head?
19 Villain's look
20 Radiator noise
22 Historic time
23 "Bye Bye Birdie" song
27 Frequently
29 "Deal or No Deal" host
31 Acid type
34 Spacious
35 Way
37 Moment
38 Shetland, for one
39 Midafternoon, in a way
41 Beneficent
45 Bread
47 — juice (milk)
48 Woody Allen movie
52 Present topper
53 Wanted-poster datum
54 Time of your life?
55 Work with
56 Furrier's wares
57 Wield a needle
58 Conger or moray

Crossword down

1 West Indian magic
2 Synagogue VIP
3 Infants
4 St. Louis squad
5 Mars, e.g.
6 Clementine's dad, e.g.
7 Poker holding
8 Joan of —
9 Expert
10 Anvil site
11 Alternative to white
17 4-Down, e.g.
21 One of the Corleones
23 Rap
24 Altar affirmative
25 Rep. rival
26 Crafty
28 Adversary
30 Exist
31 Pump up the volume
32 Long March leader
33 B&B
36 Urban disturbance
37 Stored fodder
40 Teeny bits
42 Dye deeply
43 Sue Grafton's "N"
44 Wooden peg
45 Church service
46 From the start
48 Navigation aid
49 Hearty quaff
50 Zero
51 Chapeau

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8						2	
	6	4	7		3	5	9	
1		5				3		7
			1	9	6			
				7				
			3	2	4			
8		9				4		5
	4	1	2		5	6	3	
	5						8	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

2	9	4	6	1	8	5	3	7
3	8	6	7	5	2	1	4	9
7	1	5	4	9	3	6	2	8
4	6	9	1	8	7	2	5	3
1	3	8	5	2	9	7	6	4
5	2	7	3	6	4	9	8	1
6	7	3	9	4	5	8	1	2
8	4	1	2	7	6	3	9	5
9	5	2	8	3	1	4	7	6

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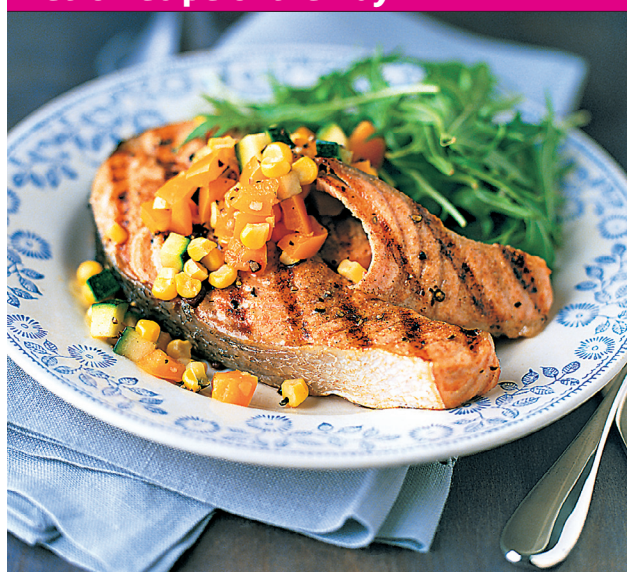
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Grilled Salmon with Relish

INGREDIENTS:

1/4 tsp (1 ml) sugar plus
2 tbsp (25 ml) sugar
1 tsp (5 ml) ground coriander
1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
1/2 tsp (2 ml) cinnamon
1/4 tsp (1 ml) cardamom
1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper
4 salmon steaks (6 ounces each)
1/2 tsp (2 ml) yellow mustard seeds
1/3 cup (75 ml) distilled white vinegar
1 zucchini, cut into 1/4-in. (0.5-cm) dice
1 orange or red bell pepper, seeded and cut into 1/4-in. (0.5-cm) dice
1 cup (250 ml) corn kernels, fresh or thawed frozen

MEHTOD:

1. Spray grill rack with nonstick cooking spray. Preheat grill to medium. Combine 1/4 tsp (1 ml) of sugar, coriander, salt, cinnamon, cardamom, and black pepper in small pot. Measure out 1 1/4 tsp (6 ml) of spice mixture and rub into one side of each salmon steak.
2. Add remaining 2 tbsp (25 ml) sugar, mustard seeds, and vinegar to spice mixture in pot, and bring to a boil over medium heat. Add zucchini, bell pepper, and corn, and cook until bell pepper is crisp-tender, about 4 minutes.
3. Place salmon, spice-side down, on grill and cook, without turning, until just done, about 5 minutes. Serve salmon topped with relish.

SERVES 4

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For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A relative behaves in an extraordinary manner. You can slide over a minor insult without flinching. Someone has played a game and lost.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A blond will lead you out of a dilemma. Someone will back out of a promise. Unforeseen delays must be taken into account.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Get to the point with a supervisor. You'll have to ease fears when plans don't work out. Insulting anyone will be a remarkably bad idea.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A talented person's partner is out of control. Incomplete messages will cause distress. You'll find a way to go out and play tonight.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A distressed female will demand a plan. There'll be shocking news about someone. A social climber wants to know how you feel.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Romantic indiscretions are becoming obvious. Don't forget someone because you're in a rush. You can accept an invitation from a social contact.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A man will try to make a weak justification. Take control of yourself in a confusing situation. A coercive colleague will earn unwanted attention.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
An arrogant friend needs to see a specialist. Your ever reliable help is greatly appreciated. A cheater will try to influence important decisions.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
You'll get gratitude from a satisfied caller. What seems logical to you will irritate others. You'll bite off more than you can chew.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A self-indulgent person will continue to disobey. Tender thoughts will find a place in your heart. Watch out for falling objects.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A member of a club will settle a debate. The people in charge will solve a problem. An unrestrained person will be forced to relax.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Analyze a bad situation before saying anything about it. The truth will be revealed by chance. True friends won't stand in your way.

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